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УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

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UCAMA relocation gets major boost

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Tymoshenko Bloc to halt all coalition talks

(Interfax-Ukraine/Ukrainian Journal)—The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc is putting an end to talks to set up a coalition in the run-up to Ukraine's parliamentary elections, the Bloc's election campaign chief, Oleksandr Turchynov, said on Feb. 22.

"We don't want now to get involved in public relations campaigns or in speculation on this subject. We have honestly met our commitments, we have signed an agreement — by the way, after our colleagues said they were approving it — and have no time left to play these games," Turchynov told a news conference in Kyiv.

Turchynov said Bloc leader Yulia Tymoshenko signed the agreement on Feb. 21, that the text of the document was sent to would-be coalition partners two weeks earlier, and that the Socialist Party approved the agreement at the time.

The Bloc will abide to the document unilaterally, "regardless of whether the colleagues sign the agreement," Turchynov said.

Turchynov said the Bloc was leaving the door open for more political groups to sign the agreement.

Turchynov slammed President Viktor Yushchenko for calling the planned alliance an election coalition. "None of the negotiators has ever spoken about an election coalition. The only point that has been discussed was a proposal to set up a coalition for the new Verkhovna Rada," Turchynov said.

Yulia Tymoshenko at a Feb. 20 press conference.

Confusion spread Feb. 21 among the five groups seeking to form a future government backing Yushchenko's policy after Tymoshenko had unilaterally signed the alliance agreement.

Five parties that have played a role in catapulting Yushchenko to the presidency last year, apparently made progress during their talks over the coalition, but no one was sure which agreement had Tymoshenko signed.

"In the morning, a draft agreement has been sent to all leaders of parties holding the talks," Tetiana Mokridi, the head of information department at Our Ukraine, a pro-Yushchenko group, said. "I hope this is the draft that had been signed by Tymoshenko."

The talks between Our Ukraine, the Tymoshenko group, the Socialist Party, Pora-PRP and the Kostenko-Pliushch bloc focused on the coalition agreement that would allow the groups to form the government after March 26 general election.

The matter became extremely important after a split of the pro-Yushchenko coalition in September 2005 had helped the Regions Party, a pro-Russian opposition group, to gain leadership in opinion polls ahead of the election.

A massive victory by the Regions Party could slow down Yushchenko's pro-Western policy and economic reforms, analysts said. But the agreement discussed by the five groups during the past two weeks could prevent this scenario, analysts said.

The draft agreement anticipated that a group, a member of the coalition, gaining most votes at the election would nominate the prime min-

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Metropolitan Lawrence installed

Participating clergy pose for a group shot with the family of Metropolitan of Canada Lawrence Huculak after his installation ceremony at Sts. Volodymyr and Olga Cathedral in Winnipeg, Feb. 11. For more on the installation of the former Eparch of Edmonton, see Pages 7-10 of this issue.

Ющенко привітав Гарпера з перемогою

(Прес-служба Президента України Віктора Ющенка)—14–го лютого відбулася телефонна розмова Президента України з Прем'єр-міністром Канади Стівеном Гарпером.

Під час розмови Ющенко привітав Гарпера з перемогою його партії на парламентських виборах та затвердженням на посаді Прем'єр-міністра Канади.

Сторони обговорили тему двосторонніх відносин між Україною і Канадою, а також українсько-канадське співробітництво. У цьому контексті Президент відзначив, що Україна зацікавлена у збільшенні обсягу канадських інвестицій.

Також В. Ющенко та С. Гарпер порушили питання парламентських виборів в Україні. Президент підкреслив, що Україна надзвичайно позитивно відзначає діяльність канадської місії спостерігачів під час минулих президентських виборів у нашій країні. При цьому він наголосив, що Україна готова прийняти міжнародних спостерігачів на парламентські вибори у березні цього року та вітає прибуття представників Канади, які працюватимуть у рамках Місії спостерігачів ОБСЄ.

Президент також висловив упевненість, що активізації двосторонніх взаємин сприятиме проведення Днів Канади в Україні, заплановане на травень цього року.

Окрім того, під час розмови Президент та Прем'єр-міністр торкнулися теми 20-річчя Чорнобильської катастрофи. Глава Української держави висловив сподівання, що Канада сприятиме активізації участі світової спільноти у вирішенні ряду питань довкола цієї теми.

Ющенко готовий свідчити в справі Гонгадзе

(Українська правда)—Президент України Віктор Ющенко готовий у суді свідчити в справі вбивства Георгія Гонгадзе.

Про це заявив адвокат матері загиблого журналіста Лесі Гонгадзе Андрій Федур в Івано-Франківську 17–го лютого, передає "Обком" з посиланням на УНІАН.

"Президент готовий свідчити в суді, якщо буде прийняте таке рішення суду", - відзначив адвокат.

"Я володію ситуацією. У мене була розмова з міністром юстиції Сергієм Головатим і з главою Секретаріату президента Олегом Рибачуком. Вони не бачать проблем у тому, щоб президент свідчив у суді, якщо буде прийняте таке рішення суду", - сказав Федур.

У той же час, адвокат заявив, що хоче звернути увагу на інше. "Саме прокуратура, що розслідувала нібито справу про вбивство Гонгадзе, що направила справу в суд, сьогодні криком кричить - не дай боже, ніяких свідків, яких хоче Федур допитати, і їх не можна викликати в суд".

"Позиція матері й моя, що це було замовлене вбивство, - відзначив Федур. - У прокуратурі фабула обвинувачення, що це вбивство ні з того ні із сього. Тобто, убивство без мотиву. Чинне законодавство України не знає такого складу злочину як убивство без мотиву", - сказав він.

Крім того, Федур у ході прес-конференції висловив думку, що колишнього майора держохорони Миколу Мельниченка в Україні хотіли не допитати, а дискредитувати. Федур саме із цим пов'язує "раптовий від'їзд Мельниченка" з України, крім погіршення його здоров'я.

"Що стосується Мельниченка, який терміново покинув Україну, то дійсно там виникли проблеми зі здоров'ям, - відзначив адвокат. - Причина хвороби не з'ясована, тобто не зрозуміло, чому таке раптове погіршення його стану".

За його словами, "проблема й лихо в іншому: Мельниченка ніхто не чекав в Україні". "Я точно знаю, які Мельниченко дав свідчення" - відзначив Федур.

"Однак, може, Мельниченко виглядав не так на телебаченні, де його відверто й грубо дискредитували, де його хотіли показати не з гарної сторони. А він, мабуть, не є Цицероном. Він не майстер слова, а фахівець в іншій області, і його, на мою думку, хотіли грубо дискредитувати", - сказав адвокат.

За словами Федура, Мельниченко був готовий виступити свідком у суді в справі Гонгадзе. "Але прокуратура говорить, що моє клопотання є безпідставним", сказав Федур.

Пинзенику знайшли заміну

(Українська правда)—Міністр фінансів Віктор Пинзеник підтвердив, що з 16 лютого він пішов у відпустку, а не звільнився з посади.

Про це Пинзеник заявив 17 лютого у прямому ефірі на телеканалі "1+1", повідомляє Ліга.

"Я написав заяву. Про відпустку. З завтрашнього дня (з п'ятниці). Сподіваюся, що з завтрашнього дня я буду у відпустці", - сказав він. Разом з тим, Пинзеник чітко не відповів на питання, яку ж саме заяву він написав: відразу на відпустку, або ж спочатку на відставку, але президент її не прийняв.

"Я сьогодні був цілий день на роботі. Я до вас приїхав з роботи. З завтрашнього дня я у відпустці", - відповів міністр.

Пинзеник пояснив свій крок бажанням допомогти своїй команді у виборчій боротьбі.

"Майбутнє країни у великому ступені залежить від того, що ми одержимо буквально через місяць. Тому я йду зараз підтримати команду на виборах з метою домогтися того, щоб усі сили помаранчевої коаліції були в єдиній коаліції і створили єдину урядову команду", - сказав Пинзеник.

Він підкреслив, що факт створення робочої групи з формування помаранчевої коаліції також вплинув на його рішення взяти безпосередню участь у виборчій кампанії.

Виконувати обов'язки міністра фінансів на час відпустки Віктора Пинзеника буде перший заступник міністра Віктор Кальник.

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Чорновола "замовив" Кучма, а Кравченко "перестарався"?

(Українська правда)—Замовником усунення лідера Народного Руху В'ячеслава Чорновола міг бути екс-президент Леонід Кучма, вважає помічник міністра внутрішніх справ Микола Степаненко, який займається цією справою.

"Я цілком припускаю, що екс-президент Кучма міг доручити екс-міністру МВС Юрію Кравченку розіб-ратися з неугодним політиком, а той "перестарався", - сказав він в інтерв'ю "Комсомольській правді в Україні", 21-го лютого.

За словами Степаненка, справу Чорновола можна порівняти зі справою вбивства журналіста Гєоргія Гонгадзе.

"Лідер НРУ був незручний для чинної у той час влади. Був безкомпромісною людиною, не брав хабарів", - додав він.

Говорячи про просування у розслідуванні обставин смерті Чорновола, помічник Луценка розповів, що до цієї справи були залучені матеріали, зібрані в 1999-2000 роках.

"На жаль, у 1999 році слідство розглядало тільки одну версію того, що сталося, згідно з якою зіткнення КамАЗа і "Тойоти" (в іномарці і знаходився Чорновіл) відбулося з вини водія легковика. У результаті кримінальну справу за фактом загибелі голови НРУ закрили. А порушили її знову лише після помаранчевої революції", - сказав він.

За словами Степаненка, водій КамАЗа, у який врізалася машина Чорновола, був "не в курсі того, що відбувалося".

"Судячи з усього, він просто одержав від керівництва КСП ім. Хмельницького (якому належить КамАЗ) розпорядження виїхати о 12 годині 30 хвилин. Люди, які організували вбивство лідера НРУ, не збиралися посвячувати у власні плани "пішаків". Вони цілком могли домогтися свого і шляхом шантажу начальства агрофірми", - зазначив він.

Помічник міністра розповів, що відповідно до однієї з версій вбивства, яка розглядається слідством, водію КамАЗа Володимиру Куделі наказали зупинитися на трасі о 22 годині ще в КСП.

"У призначений час до нього в кабіну підсів незнайомець зі зброєю, який спочатку наказав водію набрати швидкість 15 км/годину, а потім оголосив, що машину необхідно розвернути. Після ДТП цей незнайомець негайно залишив місце злочину", – сказав він.

За словами Степаненка, про навмисність убивства говорить і те, що КамАЗ їхав зі швидкістю 15 км на годину і міг уникнути зіткнення.

"У нього вистачало часу, щоб розвернутися чотири рази! І, відповідно до нашого експерименту, він мав помітити світло фар іномарки вже за 1100 метрів!", - сказав він.

На питання, що б сталося, якби фура не зупинилася, а продовжила рух, Степаненко відповів: "Тоді, думаю, у Павлова і Чорновола, які були у "Тойоті", з'явився б шанс на порятунок".

Він також розповів, що крім Куделі в КамАЗі знаходилися ще два чоловіки - головний інженер КСП Чернецький, який був "мертвецьки п'яний", міцно спав і прокинувся вже після аварії, та робітник КСП Іван Шолом, який "загинув за загадкових обставинах ще в 2000 році".

"Відповідно до офіційної версії, 42-літній Іван Шолом помер від інфаркту. Але він ніколи не скаржився на болі у серці! Відомо, що напередодні смерті до нього приїжджали якісь незнайомці і про щось з ним довго розмовляли. А коли вони виїхали, чоловік помер", - розповів Степаненко.

Найдорожчу резиденцію Кучми незабаром повернуть державі

(Українська правда)—У результаті перевірки звітності Державного управління справами було встановлено, що в його розпорядженні було неврахованого майна вартістю близько 280 мільйонів гривень.

Про це розповіла газеті "Дело" начальник головного контрольно-ревізійного управління Наталя Рубан.

"На сьогодні ми повернули в держбюджет 52 млн. грн. Процес повернення майна зараз продовжується. Наприклад, йде повернення майна в резиденції в Синьогорі", - відзначила вона.

Як відомо, "Синьогора" була резиденцією президента Кучми і була здана в оренду при екс-керівнику ДУС Ігорі Бакаєві зі зловживанням службовим становищем без проведення експертної оцінки власності. Рубан відзначила, що за результатами перевірок торік було виявлено фінансових порушень на суму 1,8 млрд. грн.

"У держмонополіях, наприклад, ми знайшли факти нецільового використання коштів на 450 млн. грн. в "Укразалізниці", 275 млн. грн. у "Хлібі України", 150 млн. грн. у "Укравтодорі", - сказала вона.

За словами Рубан, цього року КРУ за завданням Кабміну буде проводити інвентаризацію всіх споживчих газових мереж в Україні (газопроводи, по яких одержує газ населення).

"Великих перевірок державних монополістів у першому кварталі не буде. Свої звіти за попередній рік компанії подають до кінця лютого. Таким чином, проводити перевірки можна буде з другого кварталу", - відзначила вона.

"Цього року знову будуть проведені перевірки "Укрзалізниці" і НАК "Нафтогаз". Ми вважаємо, що монополістів потрібно перевіряти щорічно. КРУ може проводити перевірки за власною ініціативою", - додала начальник головного контрольно-ревізійного управління.

45 партій чи блоків беруть участь у виборах

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—ЦВК 19-го лютого провела жеребкування номерів, під якими розташовуватимуться у виборчому бюлетені назви партій і блоків, що беруть участь у виборах народних депутатів.

Відповідно до жеребкування, партії та блоки будуть розташовані в бюлетені в такій послідовності:

1. Всеукраїнська партія Народної Довіри, 2. Український Народний Блок Костенка й Плюща, 3. Українська Національна Асамблея, 4. Політична партія "Партія екологічного порятунку "ЕКО+25%", 5. Українська партія "Зелена планета", 6. Блок НДП. 7. Політична партія України "Партія політики Путіна", 8. Комуністична партія України. 9. Партія "Віче", 10. Блок "Наша Україна", 11. Українська Консервативна партія, 12. Народний Рух України "За Єдність", 13. Українська партія честі, боротьби з корупцією й організованою злочинністю. 14. "Блок Юрія Кармазіна", 15. Всеукраїнська партія "Нова Сила", 16. Партія "Відродження", 17. Виборчий блок політичних партій "За Союз", 18. Партія регіонів, 19. Селянська партія України, 20. "Громадянський блок ПОРА-ПРП", 21. Партія патріотичних сил України, 22. Виборчий блок "Євген Марчук - "Єдність", 23. Партія національно-економічного розвитку України, 24. "Виборчий блок "Держава - трудовий союз", 25. "Блок Безпартійних "Сонце", 26. Всеукраїнське об'єднання "Свобода", 27. Соціалістична партія України, 28. Соціально-Християнська партія. 29. Ліберальна партія України, 30. Політична партія "Європейська столиця", 31. Партія соціального захисту, 32. Блок Наталі Вітренко "Народна опозиція", 33. Політична партія "Третя сила", 34. Партія Зелених України, 35. "Блок Лазаренка". 36. "Блок Юлії Тимошенко", 37. Виборчий блок "Влада народу", 38. Блок "Патріоти України", 39. "Народний Блок Литвина", 40. Виборчий блок: "Блок Бориса Олійника й Михайла Сироти", 41. Партія "Вперед, Україно!", 42. Соціально-екологічна партія "Союз. Чорнобиль. Україна". 43. Партія Пенсіонерів України. 44. Опозиційний блок "Не так!", 45. Політична партія "Трудова Україна".

Заступник голови глави ЦВК Марина Ставнійчук повідомила, що 18 лютого минув останній строк подачі заяв партій і блоків про відмову від участі в парламентських виборах.

21 лютого ЦВК затвердив форму виборчого бюлетеня.

City donates $3M, Capital City $100,000 to UCAMA project

Added to Alberta's $3M, relocation plan over halfway mark

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum and Alberta got a major shot in the arm Feb. 13 for its relocation to the historic Lodge Hotel located at 9662 Jasper Ave.

Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel announced a C$3 million grant while Harry Buddle, President and CEO of Capital City Savings Credit Union pledged $100,000 — the largest corporate donation to date.

Added to the $3 million from the Alberta Lottery Commission announced on their behalf by Alberta Education Minister Gene Zwozdesky at UCAMA's 30th Anniversary banquet last year, these new donations bring UCAMA's relocation fund above the halfway mark of their $12 million target.

The new building is scheduled to be ready by October 2008.

In announcing the City's contribution, Mandel described the UCAMA relocation project as a "cornerstone" and "anchor" for downtown.

"People will come from far and wide to see this fantastic museum," said the Mayor, adding its inception was a "tremendous tribute to our Ukrainian community"

"Capital City Savings is pleased to play a part in making this museum a reality. It contributes to the redevelopment of Edmonton's downtown and reflects the strong multicultural roots of our credit union," stated Buddle. "Capital City Savings is committed to building better communities where our member-owners and employees live and work."

He added that in addition to the corporate donation, Capital City Savings will accept donations from the public on behalf of UCAMA in all of their 41 service locations in north central Alberta. Those wishing to make a donation to the UCAMA capital campaign can do so at any Capital City Savings branch or online at www.capitalcitysavings.ca. Donors' information will be passed along to UCAMA in a timely and secure fashion for tax receipts and ongoing updates on the relocation of the collection. In addition, Capital City Savings will promote the UCAMA fundraising campaign to its members.

Left to Right: Harry Buddle, Khrystyna Kohut and Stephen Mandel.

Emphasizing that the donation goes back to Capital City's multicultural roots, Buddle invited other Edmonton businesses to contribute.

UCAMA President Khrystyna Kohut said, "Capital City Savings' investment in the UCAMA relocation is a wonderful testament to the generosity of this leading corporate citizen. We are pleased to offer our supporters a secure and easy method for donating, enabling us to move forward into the next chapter in our history."

"UCAMA was started over 30 years ago by my father and other prominent businessmen in Edmonton's Ukrainian Community to preserve the Ukrainian immigrant story… a story of challenges and perseverance… a story of accomplishment and pride," she added.

"We seem to be following this immigrant story of our ancestors and are moving ahead with perseverance and the knowledge that our dreams are soon to become a reality. With your continued support we anticipate an October 2008 project completion.

"Thank you all for joining us for these important announcements today. We once again thank our government sponsors and new corporate partners – Capital City Savings — and ask that the community show their support for this important archives, museum and community centre for all of Edmonton… for all of Canada."

Goldring bids farewell to Ukrainian Ambassador

(UkrNews)—Edmonton East MP Peter Goldring attended a farewell luncheon at the Lester B. Pearson Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade building followed by an evening reception at the Ukrainian Embassy for outgoing Ukrainian Ambassador Mykola Maimeskul, Feb. 10.

The career diplomat has returned to Kyiv after almost two years as his country's representative to Canada. Goldring's wife, Lorraine, was also in attendance at the second event.

"During Mr. Maimeskul's time in Canada, Ukraine has continued its path of economic opportunity and democratic reform. It has experienced the Orange Revolution and the excitement of political change. As an election observer for Ukraine's last election in 2004, I experienced first-hand the dynamic movement of Ukrainian democracy and I am looking forward to returning next month to monitor the new elections," said Goldring.

"Mr. Maimeskul has been an avid supporter of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, for which I have been honoured to serve on the executive council. Mr. Maimeskul is returning to a Ukraine of renewed hope and freedom and he should be congratulated for his hard work and national vision. God speed, Mr. Ambassador."

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Wrzesnewskyj appointed Associate Critic for Foreign Affairs

(UkrNews)—Borys Wrzesnewskyj, the recently re-elected MP from Etobicoke Centre, has been appointed the Official Opposition's Associate Critic for Foreign Affairs. The appointment was made Feb. 20 by the Leader of the Official Opposition, Bill Graham.

Commenting on his appointment, Wrzesnewskyj said:

"It's an honour to have been asked to serve as the Associate Critic for Foreign Affairs and I would like to thank the Leader of the Official Opposition, The Hon. Bill Graham for this opportunity. I look forward to working with Foreign Affairs Critic The Hon. Stéphane Dion and my colleagues in parliament to ensure that Canada's foreign policy continues to build on the Pearsonian legacy of peacebuilding and directly engages the reserves of potential found in Canada's multicultural society."

During the previous parliamentary session Wrzesnewskyj spearheaded the "Canada Corps" in its first international project in support of free and transparent elections in Ukraine during the Orange Revolution of 2004; in 2005 he personally financed a fact-finding mission to Somalia working on the peace and reconciliation process and meeting with the President, Prime Minister and Cabinet of the Transitional Federal Government; as well in 2005 he travelled to the Darfur region of Sudan meeting with Canada's military which is providing the backbone for the African Union peacekeeping force.

Commenting on Canada's role in the world, Wrzesnewskyj noted:

"If properly executed, Canada can establish for herself an international role as an honest broker to be called upon to resolve conflicts without the host countries having to fear a loss of sovereignty or control over national resources. Canada has tremendous potential to play an international role disproportionate to her size. A country renown for her multicultural human resources, an exporter of peace builders and civil society architects, the builder of a peaceful global village."

An opposition critic's responsibility is to shadow a particular Minister in the government and to oversee his or her work in a particular portfolio. As the Associate Critic for Foreign Affairs, Wrzesnewskyj will work alongside Foreign Affairs critic Stéphane Dion to hold Foreign Minister Peter MacKay to account and to advocate for improvements to policy or legislation relating to the Foreign Affairs portfolio.

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UKRAINIAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

CAPITAL CITY SAVINGS metro CINEMA

Французькі журналісти знімали в Україні фільм про отруєння Ющенка

Тарас Марусик, *Радіо Свобода*

Цілий тиждень у столиці України працювала знімальна група французького телеканалу М-6. Журналістів зацікавила тема отруєння Віктора Ющенка, тепер Президента України, а тоді – кандидата на цю посаду. Напередодні французи побували у Відні, у відомій клініці "Рудольффінергаус". Всі матеріали після опрацювання виллються у сорокахвилинний документальний фільм.

Телеканал М-6 має другу за кількістю авдиторію серед приватних телеканалів Франції і спеціалізується на документальних фільмах. Одна з програм, яка виходить по неділях увечері, називається "Таємниці сучасних подій". Цю передачу дивляться 6-7 мільйонів французів.

Журналіст Фредерік Мартен каже, що принцип цієї програми – не йти відразу за подіями, а повертатися до тих резонансних подій, в яких залишаються темні місця.

"І виявилося, що у справі з отруєнням Віктора Ющенка маємо справу з подією, подібною до тих, які ми розглядаємо в нашій передачі".

Я запитав Фредеріка Мартена, чому він вибрав цю тему:

"Тому що вигляд Віктора Ющенка з його деформованим хворобою чи отруєнням обличчям привернув величезну увагу людей в Європі і, зокрема, у Франції. Підозри отруєння в розпалі виборчої кампанії кандидата на президентську посаду шокували багатьох у Франції. Між іншим, з цього моменту почалося зацікавлення закордонних засобів масової інформації виборами в Україні. Історія, яка схвилювала людей, досі немає завершення. Досі невідомо, принаймні у Франції, що сталося – чи справді його отруїли, адже ми чули чимало версій. Ми намагалися зрозуміти (і це нас найбільше цікавило), чи зрушила з місця за рік справа і чи стало більше відомо про цю історію".

Відповідаючи на моє запитання, чи наблизився він до правди про отруєння Ющенка, Фредерік Мартен зазначив, що дуже складно відповісти однозначно, оскільки передача "Таємниці сучасних подій" передбачає пошук і запис головних дійових осіб тієї чи іншої історії. В рамках цієї передачі знімальна група постала перед величезною проблемою: головні дійові особи відмовляються будь-що розповідати.

А кількість висунутих версій ускладнює розуміння того, що сталося:

"Ми відчули, що й сьогодні продовжуються великі маніпуляції з боку різних таборів, різних зацікавлених осіб, що робить наше завдання вельми складним. Сьогодні всі карти у цій справі змішані, тому дуже важко йти до істини. І я вже не думаю, що правда про цю справу буде коли-небудь справді викрита".

Чи буде в Україні сховище ядерних відходів?

Віктор Міняйло, *Радіо Свобода*

Українсько-російська газова угода не єдина, яка викликала в Україні гучний резонанс. Інша угода - про будівництво сховища відпрацьованого ядерного палива – також обіцяє стати резонансною. Її підписали Національна атомна енергогенеруюча компанія "Енергоатом" з американською компанією Holtec International. Політики вже встигли вдарити на сполох - на думку Юлії Тимошенко ця угода може завдати серйозної шкоди безпеці України. У пресслужбі "Енергоатому" це спростовують.

Юлія Тимошенко заявила, що угода між "Енергоатомом" та Holtek International була підписана без проведення конкурсу і громадського обговорення. Вона говорить, що потужності сховища призначені для захоронення не тільки українських ядерних відходів, але й іноземних. І взагалі, за її словами, американська кампанія має сумнівну репутацію.

Усі ці звинувачення спростувала речник "Енергоатому" Ілона Заєць:

"Конкурс був. Був, і ті спостерігачі і журналісти, які цікавляться цією тематикою, знають, що був проведений тендер. Тендер був проведений прозоро. Виграла компанія "Holtec". Це тендер був, і контракт є на будівництво сховища виключно на три атомні електростанції, котрі працюють. Це Південно-українська, Рівненська і Хмельницька. На Запорізькій таке сховище вже працює з 2002 року і жодних проблем немає. Більше того, ця фірма працює і в Європі, і в Штатах".

За словами речника "Енергоатому", ця угода жодним чином не пов'язана з заявою президента України Віктора Ющенка про можливість захоронення в Чорнобильській зоні ядерних відходів з інших країн.

Що ж тоді мала на увазі Юлія Тимошенко? Наразі вона у передвиборчих поїздках країною і за коментарем ми звернулися до її соратника по партії і парламентській фракції Віктора Терена:

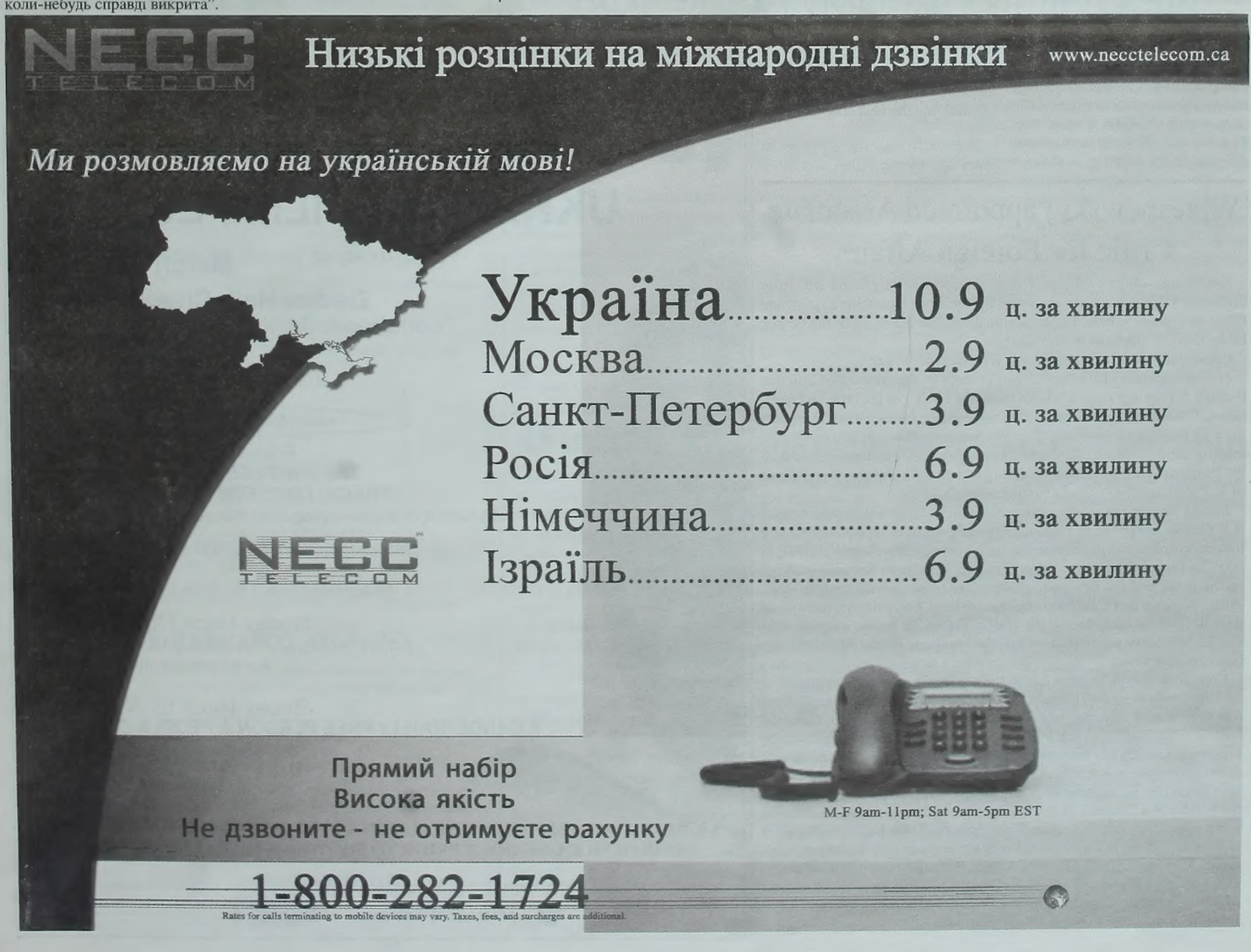
"Не можна робити це під Києвом. Київ – це європейська столиця. Була ще набагато раніше шановання Вашингтона чи Нью-Йорка. Була обіцяна експертиза, причому обіцяли враховувати громадську думку. Цього нічого немає. І раптом виринає ця угода. Ми вже на превеликий жаль є свідками багатьох "підкилимних" угод, як наприклад було 7 "підкилимних" угод по газу. І дуже добре, що Юлія Володимирівна і інші це надали суспільству".

Оскільки не виключена можливість розгляду цієї угоди у Верховній Раді, за коментарем Радіо "Свобода" звернулося до голови парламентського комітету з питань охорони довкілля Геннадія Руденка. Він вважає, що тут більше бізнесу, ніж екології:

"Конкурси починалися з 2003 року. До фінальної частини потрапило 2 фактично заявки. Одна від американської компанії "Holtec", а інша від українського консорціуму. Я не буду зараз переконувати в тому, що та чи інша технологія краща, чи гірша. Я розумію, що на цей час окрім екології вступають якісь бізнесові справи. Коли мова йде про суму більшу 100 мільйонів євро, то безумовно, тут будуть і суперечки, і політичні заяви. Але головне, щоб були витримані необхідні вимоги: безпека, екологічні стандарти. Мені здається, що це сьогодні дотримується".

Як сказано в прес-релізі "Енергоатому", до сьогодні Україна змушена вивозити відпрацьоване ядерне паливо до Росії, що збільшує собівартість електроенергії . За попередніми розрахунками, термін будівництва сховища три роки - відлік часу починається з моменту вибору майданчика. А також, згідно з чинним законодавством, передбачено проведення громадського обговорення.

Щоправда міністр з питань охорони навколишнього природного середовища України Павло Ігнатенко в інтерв'ю журналістам повідомив, що до його відомства не надходило жодних проектів угод щодо будівництва сховища для ядерних відходів в Україні. При цьому він запевнив, що без висновку міністерства жодний проект не буде реалізовано.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Ukraine rules out presence of Russian fleet in Crimea after 2017

(RFE/RL/Ukrainian Journal)—Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko said on Feb. 16 in Sevastopol that Russia's Black Sea Fleet will remain in Ukraine after 2017, Interfax reported.

Hrytsenko, who was attending a Ukrainian naval ceremony for a new Ukrainian-made corvette, a small antisubmarine ship, added that the withdrawal of the Russian fleet should be a planned action that "will not cause damage to the combat capacity of the fleet" and "will settle social and economic issues."

However, Viktor Yanukovych, Ukraine's former prime minister and the leader of the popular Party of Regions, said the same day that Ukraine will improve its relations with Russia after the March 26 parliamentary elections and "make a carefully weighed decision on the Black Sea Fleet."

On Feb. 20, a senior Russian official said Russia hasn't been looking at a possibility of withdrawing its naval fleet from Sevastopol and other Ukrainian ports after 2017.

Vladimir Dorokhin, Russia's special envoy, said the Black Sea Fleet was "busy implementing other plans, such as improving its combat readiness," according to a RIA Novosti report.

Tymoshenko Bloc to halt coalition talks

Cont. from P. 1

ister, a position that has huge economic and political powers.

Most of the opinion polls indicated that Our Ukraine had been leading other potential coalition partners, suggesting that incumbent Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov could keep the post.

But one of the most controversial issues that could deal a blow to the coalition was Tymoshenko's criticism of natural gas deal signed between Ukraine and Russia on Jan. 4.

Tymoshenko called on the deal to be cancelled and set this as a precondition for the coalition agreement. The agreement that has been signed by Tymoshenko on Feb 21 apparently contained a clause promising canceling of the deal.

Ukraine accepted a 90% hike in natural gas prices on Jan. 4 in the agreement with Russia that had ended a bitter gas dispute between the two. Ukraine also agreed to replace Russian gas monopoly Gazprom with RosUkrEnergo, a controversial Swiss-based gas trader controlled by Gazprom officials, as the key gas supplier to Ukraine during the next five years.

Both positions have been sharply criticized by Tymoshenko and by other politicians insisting that Ukraine should have defended original agreements with Russia that had anticipated gas prices unchanged through the end of 2010.

Our Ukraine and other likely members of the coalition as of early Feb. 21 had not supported the cancellation of the deal.

Pora-PRP, a group led by Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, who himself criticized the gas deal, stressed the issue should absolutely not be mentioned in the agreement.

"The Tymoshenko's statement [on the gas deal] jeopardizes not only the agreement but further democratic development of Ukraine," Pora-PRP said. "The coalition agreement must not contain any preconditions."

Yushchenko calls for new constitution

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko used his annual address to parliament to call for a new constitution, Feb. 9.

Yushchenko, who has been locked in a legal conflict with parliament, proposed setting up a commission to draft a new version of the constitution that would then be submitted to the electorate in a referendum. Yushchenko said, however, that he will not attempt to force any changes before parliamentary elections are held on March 26.

According to Yushchenko, that constitutional commission should be composed of representatives of political forces and nongovernmental organizations as well as experts and scientists.

Yushchenko said the promulgation of a new constitution should be followed by the adoption of laws defining the functions of the president, the cabinet, and the parliament in the new political system.

"I am convinced that it is quite possible to achieve a nationwide and political consensus on this issue," Yushchenko noted.

He added that he will not challenge the legality of the 2004 constitutional reform with the Constitutional Court prior to the parliamentary elections on March 26.

Constitutional changes that came into force earlier this year greatly increased parliamentary powers at the expense of the presidency. On Jan. 11, parliament voted to fire Yushchenko's government over a controversial gas deal with Russia. Yushchenko has, however, ignored the vote.

Yushchenko on Feb. 9 also appealed to lawmakers to end their internal battles and work together for the good of the country. He called for a consolidation of Ukrainian society which he said was under threat from both political and economic crises.

Before the address, scuffles broke out in parliament between Communist lawmakers and Yushchenko's supporters.

Crimean legislature sets referendum on Russian language

(RFE/RL)—The Crimean Supreme Council on Feb. 22 decided to stage a local consultative referendum on giving Russian the "status of a second state language" in the peninsula, Interfax-Ukraine reported.

The plebiscite is to be held on March 26, simultaneously with the parliamentary elections.

The motion was supported by 53 deputies in the 100-seat Crimean legislature.

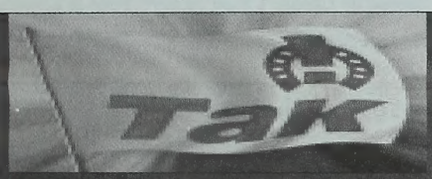
Meanwhile, the Ukrainian Justice Ministry has announced that giving state status to a language belongs to the so-called constitutional-system issues in Ukraine and cannot be resolved in a local referendum, but requires a nationwide plebiscite.

he Crimean Prosecutor's Office has immediately said it will appeal against the parliamentary resolution on the referendum.

The Party of Regions led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych collected more than 300,000 signatures in support of this referendum in Crimea.

Andreiy Ivanets, who heads the Simferopol branch of the pro-presidential Law and Justice party, says it is no surprise that the Russian-speaking majority in Crimea supports the idea, and accuses the Party of Regions of resorting to nationalism to gain support ahead of the parliamentary vote.

"This event organized by the Party of Regions is clearly a part of their election campaign," Ivanets said. "It illustrates the behavior of the Party of Regions, which was in power for a long time. As we know that [Party of Regions head] Viktor Yanukovych was a prime minister for two years but he never raised such problems."



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Western Ukraine + Poland IV	Sep 23	Oct 06	14	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, L'viv, Krakow *plus: Rohatyn, Ivano Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarvanytcia*	$2450
Mini Ukraine IV	Sep 29	Oct 06	8	L'viv, Kyiv	$1250
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Freedom of Speech cannot be selective

Many Western media outlets have tossed in their two cents worth over the fray resulting from the publication of cartoons by a Danish newspaper deemed "blasphemous" by Muslims around the world.

Some, including two Alberta periodicals, The Western Standard and the Jewish Free Press, both based in Calgary, have chosen to reprint the cartoons, supposedly on their solidarity with the principles of Freedom of Speech (though we suspect the reasoning behind this had more to do with seeking cheap publicity, than standing up for matters of principle).

Yet for some reason Western media outlets have been deafeningly silent about the Feb. 20 sentencing by an Austrian court of British historian David Irving to three years in prison for a series of public lectures in which he denied the Holocaust. A day later Austria's state prosecutor filed an appeal to lengthen the three-year jail term.

There is no question that the Holocaust most definitely did happen and denying it is wrong. Understandably the Holocaust remains a very painful, even sacred, memory for Jews around the world and their sensitivities have to be considered. But the figure of the Prophet Mohammed remains a sacred symbol for Muslims around the world. Portraying the prophet with a stick of dynamite coming out of his head is both sacrilegious to Muslims and grossly unfair. The Islamic religion does not condone terrorism. Certain extremists have distorted the teachings of Islam in order to justify their own agenda. But this does not apply to the vast majority of Muslim faithful, who want peace just as much as do adherents of other faiths.

Let us be perfectly clear. Under no circumstances are we defending Holocaust deniers. What we do want to question, however, is how you can condone a jail term for someone who espouses untrue statements about an historic event that Jews consider a crime of unparalled proportions, yet defend the right of some cartoonist, who uses untrue stereotypes, to defame the Islamic religion as a whole?

The principles of Freedom of Speech are one of the cornerstones of democratic society. Freedom of Speech must be protected. But with Freedom of Speech comes responsibility. This responsibility means journalists have to maintain their integrity to ethical and moral principles. We believe that people who violate these moral and ethical principles should be subject to civil, as opposed to criminal, penalties, but that is another matter.

But whether one applies criminal charges, or takes civil action against people who violate these moral and ethical principles, any action taken should be applied equally to all and not selectively. Without question, media outlets who jump on the "Freedom of Speech" bandwagon to glorify people who defame the Islamic religion, but condone prosecution of anyone who offends Jewish sensitivities are grossly hypocritical.

For the record, we morally condemn anyone who denies the Holocaust (and the Ukraine Famine-Genocide, the Armenian Genocide, the 1958 Chinese "Great Leap Forward" Genocide, the Rwandan Genocide, the Cambodian Killing Fields and all other acts of Genocide we nay have omitted, for that matter) and we morally condemn anyone who defames a religion. However, if one is to use Freedom of Speech as an excuse to defend anyone who commits such defamation, then one has to be consistent.

Freedom of Speech cannot be selective. The principles inherent in this democratic right must apply equally to Muslims, Jews, Christians and members of all other faiths.

CIUS expresses solidarity with scholars who oppose anti-Semitism

(CIUS)—The director and academic staff of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) hereby express our solidarity with the six scholars of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Myroslav Popovych, Yaroslav Yatskiv, Natalia Yakovenko, Stanislav Kulchytsky, Oleksandr Maiboroda and Yuri Shapoval) who, as noted in their "Declaration of Scholars of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine," signed the appeal "Against Xenophobia; for a European Ukraine." We were disturbed to learn that these scholars are being taken to court by the Interregional Academy of Personnel Management (IAPM) for their part in issuing the appeal, which condemns the xenophobic utterances in the appeal "To Put an End to the Actions of Organized Jewry," signed by the president of the IAPM and others.

In light of the above, as well as past evidence of xenophobia and ant-Semitism associated with or emanating from the IAPM, we consider ourselves obliged to make the following statement:

1) CIUS supports the six academicians and their statement;

2) CIUS condemns the statements associated with the IAPM as containing elements of anti-Semitism and xenophobia, which inflame inter-ethnic hostility;

3) CIUS calls on other scholars in Ukrainian studies to come to the defence of their six colleagues in Ukraine and to condemn the statements of the IAPM as an affront to academic ethics.

Signed: Zenon Kohut, director; Bohdan Klid, assistant director; Frank Sysyn, director, Peter Jacyk Centre for Ukrainian Historical Research; Serhii Plokhii, associate director, Peter Jacyk Centre for Ukrainian Historical Research; professor, Department of History and Classics; David Marples, director, Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine; professor, Department of History and Classics; Myroslav Yurkevich, senior editor, CIUS Press; Roman Senkus, director, CIUS Publications Program; managing editor, www.encyclopediaofukraine.com; Marko Stech, manager, CIUS Press, www.encyclopediaofukraine.com and English-language edition of M. Hrushevsky's *History of Ukraine-Rus'*; Jars Balan, co-coordinator, Ukrainian Canadian Program; Andrij Makuch, co-coordinator, Ukrainian Canadian Program; Anna Biscoe, development manager; Myroslav Marynovych, Ivan Kolasky Memorial Fellow; vice-rector, Ukrainian Catholic University.

Is Yushchenko backtracking on gas deal?

By Vladimir Socor

(Jamestown Foundation)—Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko finally has noticed the internal and international critique of the Jan. 4 and Feb. 2 gas deals with Moscow that he authorized and has been praising. Signaling a possible turnabout, Yushchenko's press service announced on Feb. 14, "The President said that all attempts to obtain the necessary information about the RosUkrEnergo [gas trading] company have remained fruitless. ... The government can, if necessary, seek other ways of cooperating with Russia on the Ukrainian gas market. The President shares the concerns voiced by the public, political and business representatives, and international institutions, including the European Union. ... Ukraine['s] business reputation is being damaged by the controversy involving RosUkrEnergo". Although the president did not speak up himself, and his press service did not mention Washington's serious concerns, the words attributed to him suggest that the gas deal may now be on hold.

An embarrassed Yushchenko could hardly avoid taking a stand after Russian President Vladimir Putin told the press in Moscow that the "Ukrainian side" has a 50% stake in the shadowy RosUkrEnergo and advised journalists to inquire in Kyiv about those stakeholders' identities. According to Putin, he had suggested to Yushchenko that Naftohaz Ukrainy create a joint venture with Gazprom to handle gas supplies to Ukraine directly, without RosUkrEnergo as intermediary; but, he said, the Ukrainian government wanted RosUkrEnergo to be the supplier, and Moscow went along with this in the agreements.

Since the day of signing, Yushchenko has characterized those agreements as promoting market economics and Ukraine's interests, although the deal would in fact leave Ukraine for many years at the discretion of Gazprom's transit monopoly, RosUkrEnergo's supply monopoly, and the joint venture UkrGazEnergo with a large share of Ukraine's internal gas market. These arrangements, if implemented, would defeat Ukraine's declared goals of supply diversification, cementing instead its dependence on Russia. Nevertheless, Yushchenko defended the package of mostly secret agreements as a professional achievement of his negotiators, claimed detailed familiarity with the documents, and credited Putin with a fair understanding of Russian and Ukrainian national interests.

On Feb. 3, Yushchenko telephoned Putin to share in his satisfaction with the signing of the agreement to create the joint venture UkrGazEnergo; and as late as Feb. 11, the Ukrainian president's weekly radio address praised the two gas agreements. It was only at this juncture, after the agreements' signing, that Yushchenko and the head of the Presidential Secretariat, Oleh Rybachuk, promised that full information would be made available to experts and the public. This is not being done, however, notwithstanding the fact that the agreements' content has by now leaked to the press.

Aside from commercial terms, the most contentious issue in these agreements is the Gazprom offshoot RosUkrEnergo's involvement, which is now double: 1) exclusive supplier of Central Asian gas, and 2) parity owner with Naftohaz in the newly created UkrGazEnergo, on Ukraine's internal market, as exclusive supplier of gas to Ukraine's industry. Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, Fuel and Energy Minister Ivan Plachkov, and Naftohaz chairman Oleksiy Ivchenko have interchangeably claimed to be unconcerned by RosUkrEnergo's repute, or to have been pressured into accepting it as partner despite that repute, or even to be unaware of the identity of its real or nominal beneficiaries on the "Ukrainian" side. Yushchenko only asked Ukraine's Security Service to determine whether official Ukrainian structures were involved in RosUkrEnergo, and he professed to be content with the negative answer to his narrow query.

As to RosUkrEnergo's 50% "Ukr" side, Yekhanurov attempted to take the issue in stride, declaring on Feb. 8 that any Ukrainian stake would, if identified, be auctioned by Ukraine's State Property Fund at a starting price of one hryvnia (a fraction of one U.S. dollar). In immediate response, the Washington-based Project on Transitional Democracies announced an all-cash bid for that one hryvnia stake: if it can be acquired, then "PTD representatives would be able to attend the secret board meetings in Switzerland and St. Petersburg with FSB and mafia bosses who have stolen the future of Ukraine," according to a PTD press release. Finally on Feb. 14 — the day when Yushchenko at last acknowledged that problem — Yekhanurov declared in parliament that Ukraine is willing to replace RosUkrEnergo with another company as intermediary.

That proposal would amount to far less than a half-measure, however. With the heating season's end, Ukraine gains a respite and a chance to scrap these two agreements. Assisted by the European Union, it can hold new talks with Russia on a time-limited, transparent agreement, while launching in parallel its first serious initiative toward supply diversification.

Ukraine launches RosUkrEnergo probe

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine's security service is conducting a probe into RosUkrEnergo, the intermediary company that is to supply gas to Ukraine under a recent deal with Russia.

SBU spokeswoman Marina Ostapenko said Feb. 17 the probe was not a criminal investigation, just a "check." She refused to provide any other details.

RosUkrEnergo is a Swiss-registered company equally owned by Russia's state-controlled Gazprom and a group of unidentified investors.

The company's murky background has sparked widespread criticism in Ukraine and abroad. Last month, Ukraine's parliament voted to sack the government over the January gas deal with Russia. The vote was ignored by President Viktor Yushchenko.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov has demanded more information about RosUkrEnergo's secret investors after Russian President Vladimir Putin said they were linked to Ukraine, not Russia.

Yekhanurov said he has sent a request to Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov, and that if the Russian side also finds RosUkrEnergo unsuitable, "we are anticipating its replacement with pleasure, and Gazprom would be the best replacement."

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst the same day expressed surprise that RosUkrEnergo was playing a significant role in such an important agreement, adding that the United States views it as a suspicious organization. According to open data, RosUkrEnergo's revenue in 2005 was around $3 billion, and yet its staff consisted of just 12 employees.

"It would be better if this $3 billion were in the coffers of Ukraine or Russia," Herbst said.

"This is a new era for us" — Metropolitan Lawrence

An interview with His Grace Metropolitan-Archbishop Lawrence of Winnipeg by the Revd. Michael Winn (Winnipeg, Archeparchy) for Progress Ukrainian Catholic News.

What was the highlight of your installation as the new Metropolitan-Archbishop of Winnipeg

Certainly the Eucharistic celebration with Patriarch Lubomyr, the Ukrainian Clergy of Canada, the Roman Catholic bishops, the Orthodox Metropolitan, the ecumenical dignitaries, my family, and all the people present in the Church. I think that it was certainly a sign of communion (*communio*), of unity, and certainly of support for myself. I would say it was the Eucharistic celebration in its totality.

You attended St. Vladimir's College in Roblin. Do you recall any stories or incidences that are meaningful and significant to you, that influenced you in becoming a priest, and other stories that are amusing and anecdotal?

It was a whole new world for me to go to Roblin. At that time, we [the Huculak family] did not attend the Ukrainian Catholic Church that much. I was raised for the most part in the Roman Catholic Church. So in going to Roblin, I was somewhat excited. "What was this all going to be about?" I had heard of a choir directed by Doc Macenko and how they were going to have auditions. I thought, "That will finish me off. I don't know anything about the Liturgy. I haven't sung much. I don't know Ukrainian, and Macenko doesn't know English. This will just be an absolute disaster." At the time of the audition, we all had to go in and Macenko hit the notes on the piano and you had to sing it. It came to my turn and I did my thing and he said [in Ukrainian], "Tenor." I didn't understand what he said. I asked, "Am I out?" And someone said, "No, you are a tenor." That was my first surprise that I had passed the test - I was in the choir. Later on, he invited just the Grade 12s to a little soiree one evening. It was a very fancy thing especially for me. There was caviar and chocolate covered ants. I was always impressed by him. I was surprised that I was able to become part of the choir. And it really encouraged me to continue work with church music.

Another interesting thing that made a complete circle was the music that we sang with Macenko in Roblin. Our Ukrainian Catholic Church had begun at that time to use modern Ukrainian more and more. There wasn't an official Ukrainian text. We used what Macenko produced. I took that music home with me and kept it. I took it with me when I entered the Basilians. When I went to Rome, I was told to take over the singing as a cantor and take over the student choir for Vatican Radio. Every Sunday for many years, and even now, the Ukrainian Catholic Church celebrates the Ukrainian Catholic Liturgy on Vatican Radio. It was broadcast to Ukraine and Siberia – they were under the Iron Curtain. I began to work more and more with our Basilian choir and started to try more complicated music. I ended up taking some of Macenko's music which was for mens' choirs and often in simple three-part harmony, and I had to write it back into Church Slavonic (we were still using Church Slavonic). We used it and other pieces on the Vatican Radio. The harmony was simple yet different. So I made use of that.

When the Macenko choir sang for my Installation, I listened and recognized the same music pieces that I had learned in Roblin and used in Rome. It had come full circle. It was quite heart-warming.

You are a member of the Basilian Order. Can you describe for our readers how you came to have a call to the monastic priesthood?

I had always been impressed by the Basilian lifestyle. I had met some of the Basilians in my younger years. My parents knew them well. And although during the years that I grew up in Vernon they were not serving the local Ukrainian Catholic Church, we still had this contact with them. What attracted me was that they lived in a religious community. This is something I desired more and more, something that I wanted to live. I initially thought to be a lay-brother; I had not thought of becoming a priest. I applied and thought that I would be going to the house of formation in Mundare, Alberta. I had written to the Master of Novices, Fr. Severian Yakymyshyn, now Bishop Severian of New Westminster; I had arranged my first meeting with Fr. Severian at St. Basil's parish in Edmonton when I left Roblin. Fr. Severian stated that the Basilians were very happy that I was coming to them. However, I was not to go to Mundare; rather, I was to go to Ottawa as the novitiate programme was being moved there, to 520 Queen Elizabeth Driveway where the Scholasticate was already operating. I packed my bags and then moved to Ottawa where I lived for several years. I spent one year in Glencove, New York for my novitiate and returned to Ottawa for a few more years and then to Rome. Finally, after eleven and half years, my first assignment in Canada was to Mundare. I was sent from a city with a population of three million (at the time) to little Mundare. The people of Mundare, when they first met me, asked, "Where did you come from?" I told them, "From Rome." They asked, "How long were you there?" I told them, "Eleven and a half years." They asked, "What did you do that you were sent to Mundare?" [chuckling] They thought it was penance to come to this small community.

It was always the community life of the Basilian Order, the choir, the common prayer, the sung office – I have always liked this. It was one of the hardest things for me when I became a bishop to leave my community. When I moved into the bishops' residence in Edmonton, I felt that I had been defrocked. It was a nice house but it was not a religious home. There was no church around it. I found that extremely difficult. That was one of the reasons that I eventually sold that home and moved to the Cathedral residence in Edmonton because it gave me a sense of being by a church, and with a few more people, it was for me a religious community. It was certainly community life that I wanted, desired and appreciated in the Basilian context.

Our young adults meet about once a month to celebrate the Liturgy. Afterwards they view a movie together and have a time of discussion. What are some of your favourite movies?

I haven't watched that many movies lately. I like documentaries especially of nature. It reminds me of British Columbia where I was raised. I also like that movies where I learn something. I have been so long in study and education that for me that is the challenge, to learn more about life. So I appreciate movies that teach me something. I like comedies. Although today, comedies are often of poor quality because they are so cheap. One comedy that I like is *The Simpsons*. I am very interested in the writers of the script of *The Simpsons*. As it has been pointed out, the Simpsons are one of the few families in today's television that go to church, that talk about God. There are a lot of values that are good. It is a shame that they sometimes couldn't clean the program up a bit. Perhaps my lack of knowledge of movies is due to my work ethic. I find that I do not have a long period of time to watch movies. I am a morning person and I get tired in the evening. To watch a long movie, especially in the evening has the risk of me falling asleep.

Metropolitan Lawrence as a boy in Vernon, B.C. (1954). With him is Thea Hanas, sister of his Godmother, Mary Koper.

It has been over forty years since the Second Vatican Council. How do you see our Church responding to the general renewal envisioned by that Council, and particularly in the context of the documents written especially directed toward the Eastern Churches?

I think that in recent times we have entered a new phase of the understanding of who we are as an Eastern Church. This certainly has been initiated to a great extent by the Second Vatican Council. But there are also other circumstances beyond that. I thinking more specifically of the revitalization of our Church in Ukraine. It has come back into regular operation as a church. It is the source for us as the Ukrainian Catholic Church. That is to say during the Communist Era, we were keeping the fires going. Now in Ukraine the Ukrainian Catholic Church is in its fullest form functioning again. We are very much part of it through the Synod of Bishops, especially during this time of leadership of Patriarch Lubomyr Husar. He has great vision and theological understanding.

We are coming to new realities and the fullness of our life that have not occurred before for us, and for any other Eastern Church with this size and capacity. This is a new era for us. We are pioneers in working out our identity: What does it mean to be a Ukrainian Catholic Church, an autonomous Church, the term being used *"sui juris?"* What is our distinction and our relationship with the Roman Catholic Church, with the Orthodox Churches, and among ourselves in Canada? To what extent are we totally united with the Church in Ukraine, or after 100 years in Canada, as 50 years as a Metropolia? What is our significance, our identity as the Church in Canada. We are at a new stage in the life of our Church. In that sense we are pioneers in finding this out. We need to do much more academic and theological study, including ecclesiology (what does it mean to be a church?), study of *communio* (communion), study of ourselves, our national identity: what does it mean to be a Ukrainian Canadian? What is our relationship to Canada? What is our relationship to Ukraine? What is our status and relationship to those who are not ethnically Ukrainian or not 100% Ukrainian? What is the role of culture? How does culture, national identity, and faith relate and what is the direction we should be working with those three elements as we continue into the future?

At the Installation Banquet, you had mentioned in your address four points on which you wish to focus your episcopal ministry: centering on the gospel and the resultant holiness; inculturation of the Gospel in a Canadian context, mission and evangelization of our Church, and the building up of the family as the basic building block of society. Could you expand on each of these points for our readers?

I started with the Gospel message for this reason. Many people say that that is obvious. But I think that depending on our point of view, we forget that the Gospel is at the centre of our Church. Some people may look upon this as a Protestant approach or a Charismatic approach. But the Gospel is central. By that I mean the understanding of the text of the Gospel. We should be able to paraphrase the Gospel as the people of the early Church did. We can't get caught up in other aspects of church - meaning organizations or music or social works - and not know the Gospel message. It is from the Gospel message that we receive our call to holiness. It is the Gospel message that so directly ties us to Jesus Christ and the fact that we are Christians.

It is essential that our faithful know and understand the Gospel. To know - that can mean an issue of language – are they hearing the Gospel in a verbal language that they understand? Do they understand the context of the Gospel? Do they understand the challenge to take the Gospel and put it in their lives. We can't be just passive spectators as at a sports game. We have to be participants in the Gospel. The Gospel is the starting point.

The second point is the role of culture, or inculturation. The Gospel message has gone throughout the world, and the way that the peoples of the world received the Gospel was through the means of their culture. This is especially true of the Eastern Churches and equally true of our Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Gospel message was used by verbal language, through music, through art, through architecture, through literature or poetry all according to the customs of the people. We know how much we identify that the Ukrainian Catholic Church by these cultural aspects. We have to be careful not to see the Church as just another cultural organization. The Church takes culture and uses it for the preaching of the Gospel message. We have over a thousand years communicated the Gospel through our culture. We have to renew that and ensure that culture is serving the Gospel message.

Thirdly, to be a Christian means by its very definition to be a missionary, or one who spreads the Gospel. We cannot receive the Gospel message and bury it in the earth as in the parable where the man received the talents and buried instead of doubling it. That will not be a satisfactory position before the Lord our God on the Day of Judgment. If we believe in the message of Jesus Christ and the person of Jesus Christ, it is of such importance that we want to go out and share it with others. We have to be missionary, we have to be prepared to go out. It does not necessarily mean to stand on the street and hand out *Postup-Progress*. But we do have to find the ways that God calls each of us with our talents and capabilities to spread the Gospel message to our families, at our places of work, through school, in our neighbourhoods, in society with our own Ukrainian people, with Canadian people, with other Catholics, non-Catholic Christians.

There are the three classical levels of evangelization. To be a missionary means that we are to spread the Gospel. Pope John Paul highlighted this in saying that the first level of evangelization is to continue the work with the Catholics whom we have in our ongoing Church structure. The second level is to work and reach out to those

Cont. on P. 10

Overflow crowd witnesses installation

(UkrNews/Progress)—An overflow crowd witnessed the solemn ordination of Edmonton's Ukrainian Catholic Eparch, Bishop Lawrence Huculak, OSBM, as Archbishop of Winnipeg and Metropolitan for all the Ukrainian Catholics of Canada at Sts. Volodymr and Olga Cathedral in Winnipeg, Feb. 11.

The installation by Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, Patriarch of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, came at the end of a nearly three-hour Divine Liturgy.

Metropolitan Lawrence takes over from Metropolitan Emeritus Michael Bzdel, who retired at the mandatory age of 75.

According to Patriarch Lubomyr, the greatest attribute Metropolitan Lawrence brings to the Church is his scholarly knowledge.

Attending the installation were 17 bishops including all the active eparchs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada.

Representing the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada were: Metropolitan-Elect John Stinka, Archbishop of Edmonton and the Western Diocese, Acting Primate of the UOCC, Rev. Fr. Bohdan Hladio, Incoming Chair of the Presidium of the Consistory of the UOCC, and Rev. Fr. Cornell Zubritsky.

Metropolitan Lawrence becomes only the third person to hold this position since the establishment of the Metropolia 50 years ago.

Initially four eparchies (dioceses) were established in Canada in 1956 for Ukrainian Catholics, the Archeparchy (Archdiocese) of Winnipeg and the Eparchies of Toronto, Saskatoon and Edmonton. In 1974 the Eparchy of New Westminster was established.

On June 27, 2001, His Holiness Pope John Paul II, beatified Bishop Nykyta Budka, the first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop of Canada. He served the Church in Canada from 1912 to 1928 at which time he returned to Ukraine. In 1945 he was arrested by the Soviet NKVD and in October 1949, died as a martyr in a concentration camp in Kazakhstan.

Bishop Basil Ladyka who served the Church in Canada until his death Sept. 1956 succeeded Blessed Nykyta Budka.

On Nov. 3, 1956, Archbishop Maxim Hermaniuk, C.Ss.R. was enthroned as the first archbishop of the newly established Archeparchy of Winnipeg and Metropolitan of Canada. Archbishop Michael Bzdel, C.Ss.R. succeeded Most Reverend Maxim Hermaniuk on March 9, 1993.

On Jan. 9, 2006, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI appointed Most Rev. Lawrence Huculak, OSBM as the third Archbishop of Winnipeg and Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in Canada.

"Today is a day to give thanks for the many persons who have made this celebration possible. In first place I give thanks to Almighty God for the many blessings He has given me, especially his call to serve his Church in this Episcopal ministry," said Metropolitan Lawrence in a trilingual address upon his installation

In his address to the faithful of the Cathedral parish, issued the following day, Metropolitan Lawrence said the bishop's pastoral ministry is focused in three directions.

"The bishop represents his people before the Almighty God. The bishop represents his people with the other Catholic Churches with which we share fully the Holy Eucharist. And the bishop represents his people in the world in which we live.

PHOTO — VATICAN PHOTO SERVICE

Bishop Lawrence with the late Pope John Paul II and Metropolitan Michael Bzdel (now Emeritus) at World Youth Day in Toronto, 2002.

PHOTO — PROGRESS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER

A view of the crowd at Sts. Volodymyr and Olga Cathedral in Winnipeg.

"The first area in which the bishop should focus his ministry is towards the Lord God. He is to intercede to the Lord God on behalf of his faithful. Canon 199 therefore calls upon the cathedral church especially to be a place of prayer, carrying out the liturgical services of the Archeparchy in an exemplary manner. This does not just apply to the church building, but especially to the people who belong to this parish: the clergy, the cantors and choir members, the servers, and the faithful. The whole parish must be a people of prayer.

"The second area in which the bishop focuses his ministry is towards all Catholic Churches with whom we share full Eucharistic communion. This means that the cathedral parish is called upon to do the same starting with the other parishes and their faithful within this very Archeparchy. As the senior parish in dignity, the cathedral parish must be welcoming to all members of the Archeparchy, so that they feel at home, and not as strangers, when they attend liturgical services and other functions in the cathedral parish.

"This also means that the cathedral parish should be ready to foster a hospitable relationship with other Ukrainian Catholic Churches and their faithful throughout Canada, other countries in the world and especially with the Mother Church in Ukraine. We share a common history, liturgy, church discipline, hierarchy and spirituality with these other Ukrainian Catholic Churches, and they, in turn, often look first to the cathedral parish as their point of contact with our Archeparchy. The material and spiritual needs of our Ukrainian Catholic faithful are great in Ukraine and elsewhere. Many will look to the cathedral parish for leadership in helping this need.

"Our Ukrainian Catholic Church shares full Eucharistic communion with the Roman Catholic Church under the leadership of the Bishop of Rome, the Holy Father. This means that the cathedral parish will often be called upon to work together with the Roman Catholic Churches, showing hospitality to their bishops, clergy, religious and faithful. And at the same time, the cathedral parish represents our Archeparchy to the Roman Catholics.

"Our Ukrainian Catholic Church shares partial communion with the Orthodox and other Christian Churches. Here too the cathedral parish is often called upon to be hospitable with the members of these Churches through ecumenical dialogue and prayer, and when possible, with common actions. And even though we do not have full Eucharistic communion with them, we do share the faith in Jesus Christ who calls on us all to strive for the unity in Christ, so that all may be one.

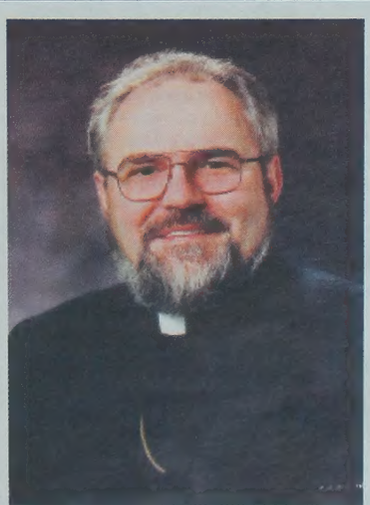
"The third area in which the bishop focuses his ministry is towards the world in which we live. As Ukrainian Catholics, we are called upon to go out into the whole world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to work towards making this a better world to live in. This affects many cathedral parishes, like this one, which find themselves situated in the older area of the city. Here the needs of the city residents become very clear with visible poverty and sickness, violence and crime, alcohol and drug addiction. Although we must take care in such conditions to protect our property and ourselves, we cannot turn away or hide from these problems in the world around us. We must remember the words of Jesus when he says: As often as you neglected to do good to one of these least ones, you neglected to do it to me. (Mt. 25:45)." He noted.

"I look forward to this great challenge that we have received from Jesus Christ. Together we must continue our pilgrim journey on this earth, trying to carry out the will of God. In this, may we be helped by the Mother of God, Blessed Bishop Nicetas — our first bishop in Canada, Blessed Vasyl Velychkowsky, and all the saints of our Ukrainian Catholic Church," Metropolitan Lawrence concluded.

З вивищенням
на Митрополичий престіл
Української Католицької Церкви всієї Канади
Високопреосвященнішого Кир Лаврентія,
нашого Едмонтонського Єпарха,
з словами синівської вдячності
вітають в імені цілого Божого люду
Української Католицької Церкви
Едмонтонської Єпархії
Централя Українців Католиків

На многі й благі літа!

Оля Глусь - Голова Централі Українців Католиків
Йосип Сенишин - Голова Братства Українців Католиків
Галя Сірман - Голова Ліги Українських Католицьких Жінок
Маргарета Батті - Голова Українського Католицького Юнацтва



With the elevation
to the Metropolitan See of the
Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada,
of His Grace Bishop Lawrence,
our Eparch of Edmonton,
we,
the **Centralia of the Ukrainian Catholics**
in Alberta, congratulate Bishop Lawrence
and extend our gratitude on behalf
of All our Faithful

Na mnohi i blahi lita!

Olga Hlus - President of the Centralia
Joseph Synyshyn - President UCBC
Helen Sirman - President UCWLC
Margaret Batty - President UCYC

ALL PHOTOS — PROGESS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER

Top: Front Row: Left to Right: Basil Schotte (Metropolitan of Pittsburgh, Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church), Bishop Andre Gaumond (President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops), Archbishop James Weisgerber (Vice-President of the CCCB), Bishop Severian Yakymyshyn, Eparch of New Westminster; Bishop Michael Wiwchar, Eparch of Saskatoon; Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak, Patriarch Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, Metropolitan Emeritus Michael Bzdel. Middle. Ukrainian Orthodx Church of Canada representatives: Left to Right: Rev. Fr. Cornell Zubritsky, Metropolitan-Elect John Stinka, Archbishop of Edmonton and the Western Diocese, Acting Primate of the UOCC, Rev. Fr. Bohdan Hladio, Incoming Chair of the Presidium of the Consistory of the UOCC. Above: The head table at the banquet.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Metropolitan Lawrence upon your Installation

Ukrainian News

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Metropolitan Lawrence upon your Installation

JANICE SARICH
Trustee - Ward 2
Edmonton Catholic School Board
Member of St. Basil's Parish

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Email: janicesarich@shaw.ca
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Високопреосвященного Кир Лаврентія,
Єпарха Едмонтонського,
з вдячністю за дев'ять років служіння
дякують і вітають
Духовенство, Монашество та
Весь Божий нарід
Української Католицької
Едмонтонської Єпархії.
На многі й благі літа!

9 січня 2006

Всесв. о. Василь Гупало
Єпархіяльний Адміністратор

With the elevation
to the Metropolitan See of the
Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada,
of His Grace Bishop Lawrence,
Eparch of Edmonton,
we, the Clergy, Monks an Sisters
and all the Faithful of the
Ukrainian Catholic Edmonton Eparchy
congratulate Bishop Lawrence
and extend our gratitude
for the past nine years
of dedicated pastoral service.
Na mnohi i blahi lita!

January 9, 2006

Very Rev. William Hupalo
Eparchial Administrator

Congratulations to Metropolitan Lawrence upon your Installation

Darlene METCALFE
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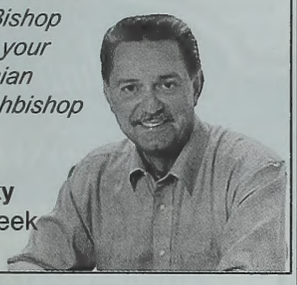
"Congratulations and best wishes to the Most Reverend Bishop Lawrence Huculak on your installation as Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan-Archbishop of Canada."

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky
MLA Edmonton Mill Creek
466-3737



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Високопреосвященного Кир Лаврентія
з нагоди Його призначення
як Архиепископа Вінніпегу
й Митрополита Української Католицької
Церкви всієї Канади

PHOTO — PHYLLIS KALNYCHUK

Metropolitan-designate Lawrence with concelebrating clergy at the Moleben preceding his farewell banquet in Edmonton, Jan. 25.

Edmonton bids farewell to Bishop Lawrence

By Phyllis Kalynchuk

The faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton and Alberta celebrated a Moleben to the Mother of God at St. Josaphat's Cathedral in Edmonton on Jan. 25 followed by a banquet at St. Josaphat's Cathedral Parish Hall, in honour of Most Rev. Lawrence Huculak, OSBM.

The Moleben was con-celebrated by Bishop Lawrence and 25 priests from the various parishes of Alberta. Prior to the service, the children of St. Josaphat's Cathedral, directed by Lilea Wolanski, sang Christmas carols.

Responses to the Moleben to the Mother of God were sung by members of three Ukrainian Catholic Edmonton choirs: St. Josaphat's Cathedral, St. Basil and St. George Ukrainian Catholic churches. Approximately 500 faithful prayed together. Following the Moleben, a banquet for approximately 330 guests was held at the St. Josaphat's Cathedral Hall. After the introduction of the Head Table guests by Masters of Ceremony, Father M. Planchak and Father Greg Faryna, the Schola Cantorum sang some beautiful songs and the Opening Prayer. The banquet, prepared by the ladies of St. Josaphat's Cathedral UCWLC was served.

Greetings, best wishes and farewells were as follows:

• Ukrainian Canadian Congress: Dave Broda, President, on behalf of the Canadian Community;

• Ukrainian Catholic Youth: Margaret Batty, Eparchial President, on behalf of all Ukrainian Catholic Youth Organizations;

• Knights of Columbus: Honourable Sir Knight Bill Diachuk, on behalf of all Alberta Councils;

• Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood: Joe Synyshyn, Eparchial President, on behalf of all members in Alberta;

• Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada: Helen Sirman, Eparchial President, on behalf of all members in Alberta;

• Ukrainian Catholic Council (Centralia): Olga Hlus, Eparchial President;

• Parish Councils: Greg Warwa, President - St. Josaphat's Cathedral, on behalf of all parishes in Alberta;

• Eparchy of Edmonton Chancery Staff: Maria Wojcichowsky;

• Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate: St. Rose Luby, SSMI;

• Clergy of the Eparchy: Very Rev. William Hupalo, Vice General;

• Brief History of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg: Fr. M. Planchak;

The Heruvymy Quartet of Melanie Turgeon, Andria Leader, Patty Tachynski and Kathy Tachynski sang several beautiful songs.

Most Rev. Lawrence Huculak, OSBM, Metropolitan-Elect for Canada expressed his sincere thanks to God and all the parishioners of the large and small parishes throughout the cities, towns and rural areas. He appreciated the welcome he always received whenever he visited. He expressed gratitude to all the people for his nine wonderful years as Bishop. Bishop Lawrence commented on the successes of his time, especially the ordination of 2 Bishops and 9 priests.

All the members of this Eparchy are extremely proud of this honor for Our Bishop to have been appointed by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI as the Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan of all Canada.

Best Wishes! Na Mnohi Lita! Axios! Axios! Axios!

Interview with Metropolitan Lawrence

Cont. from P. 7

who have fallen away, that is, those have been baptized and been part of the Church but have fallen away. We need to go and evangelize those who need a renewal of the Gospel message. The third level, perhaps the hardest for us as Ukrainian Catholics, is the evangelization *ad gentes* or out into the world. This means that we have to be prepared to go to whoever is out there – they all need to be taught or given the Gospel message. At one time in our history, the people of Kyivan-Rus' received the Gospel message. It is now our turn to carry this on to whoever is out there in the world. This third level approach of evangelization is important for us.

The fourth point is the family. I highlighted this by recalling the presence of my family at this Installation. They came out in a good number; even several who were not healthy made that effort to come out. They always supported me, even as a young seminarian, even if it cost financially. Looking at the support of my family, and realizing how important this is in today's context of life, certainly in North America, where aspects of family life are being questioned – definition of marriage, continuity of family life, etc. I think that the Ukrainian Catholic Church should concentrate on their service to families. I recently heard this from the sociologist Professor Reginald Bibby from Lethbridge – he said to look at the churches that are doing well now; they are the ones who are offering various supports and programs to families, from the youngest to the oldest. That's where people are responding. I think that we as Ukrainian Catholics we ought to look to that area.

Is there any else you wish to share with our readers?

I look forward to meeting the people of the Province of Manitoba and the parishioners of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg. I know already some of the clergy, and some of the people. But obviously, there is much more to learn, in order to be the pastor of the people. I am thankful that I have had some connections such as my time in Roblin, and the one month at St. Nicholas parish in 1978. I also recall that my paternal grandmother and her parents settled in the Sifton area in the late 1890s. These ties will be useful to me as I begin this new chapter of my life in Manitoba.

THE BASILIAN FATHERS
and the Parishioners of
ST. BASIL'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC PARISH
from Edmonton, Alberta
would like to congratulate
His Excellency Bishop
Lawrence Huculak, O.S.B.M.
on his installation as
Archbishop of Winnipeg and
Metropolitan of Canada.

Концерт юних талантів Едмонтону

Виконавці концерту юних талантів Едмонтону.

Марія Дитиняк, *Член УМТА*

Вже четвертий рік в Едмонтоні відбувається "Концерт юних талантів" організований Українським Музичним Товариством Альберти. Цьогорічний концерт відбувся 5-го лютого в приміщенні Муттарт театру. Ця імпреза є придумана, щоби наші діти і молодь, які вивчають музику, мали нагоду запізнатися з творами українських композиторів, тому підчас концерту лунає виключно українська музика, або музика яка включає українську тематику. В більшості всі виконавці є українського походження, хоча на цьогорічному концерті виступали чотири китайці і один японець. Імпрезу відкрила коротким словом і привітом голова товариства Люба Бойко-Белл, яка була теж ведучою програми.

У залі пролунала музика різних жанрів і стилей: обробки народних пісень, колядки, пісні, таночки, думка, імпровізація, романс, вальси гавот, сюїти, увертюра – все це творчість композиторів: Н. Бачинської, І. Берковича, Б. Берліна, В. Безкоровайного, С. Гулака-Артемовського, В. Івасюка, М. Калачевського, В. Косенка, М. Кравців-Барабаш, Л. Лепкого, А. Гнатишина, А. Лазаренка, М. Леонтовича, М. Лисенка, М. Любарського, В. Мороза, В. Присовського, Е. Родіни, А. Штогаренка, Б. Фільц, Ю. Фіяли, Л. Юріни, С. Яременка.

Концерт своїм виступом відкрила оркестра "Чайка" яка працює під опікою Організації Українок Канади, диригент – Людвик Марія-нич. Ансамбль, хоча невеликий, всього шість членів (Таня Бумбак, Андрій Довганюк, Антоній Фик, Микола Середич, Олександер Тормантовський, Чарлі Сакура) але цікавий звуком інструментів: саксафони, клярнет, труба, гітара. Своєю грою надали приємний настрій цілій імпрезі.

Як звичайно, серед виконавців найбільше було молодих піяністів, віком від початкуючих до 10 літ навчання: Оля Боднар, Наталя Вовк, Анджела Ган, Тетяна Глусь, Джонатон Глусь, Наміша Глусь, Інна Димуряк, Андрій Кунев, Джоєн Рудяк, Христина Семенюк, Оксана Сомчинська, Калина Сомчинська, Ева Тарнавська, Стефан Тарнавський, Андрея Тарнавська, Катруся Тарнавська, Соломія Цісар, Александра Чов, Филип Чов, Крис Яндо. Всі виконавці були добре підготовані, у вищих клясах цікаво було слухати добру інтерпретацію і глибоке розуміння поодиноких творів. Фортепіянні сольні точки були переплетані дуетами, як і теж виконанням на інших інструментах. В фортепіянних дуетах виступали Соломія Цісар і Анджела Ган (пісня Возьного з опр. "Наталка Полтавка" М. Лисенка), Александра і Филип Чов (Танець Ю. Фіяли). Дуже милим був виступ молоденьких скрипалів – Оксани і Марії Качмар, яким акомпанювала на фортепіяні їхня мама Любов Качмар. "Триксі чикс" – тріо скрипалів з форт. супроводом (Христина і Наташа Мандрусяк, Христина і Надя Кузик) з великою вервою заграли нам вязанку народніх пісень, що своїм ритмом заохочували кожного до танцю. Цікавою появою на сцені було сольо на саксафоні Миколи Середича який дуже гарно виконав дві пісні популярного композитора В. Івасюка. В нас, на заході Канади, популярний інструмент є цимбали. Ми мали нагоду послухати двох цимбалістів: Дамяна Рудяка і Джонатана Глуся. При кінці програми виступив новостворений ансамбль бандуристів "Молодці" який заініціювала вчителька Ірина Тарнавська при школі Father Kenneth Kearns. Керівником цего ансамблю є д-р. Андрій Горняткевич знаний в Едмонтоні бандурист. В ансамблі грають Челсі Шін, Карлі Шін, Ребека Костура, Браян Кобзей, Александер Демпгауз, Христя Погорецька і їхня опікунка Ірина Тарнавська.

Програму концерту закінчив молодечий хор при церкві св. Миколая. Чотирнадцять хлопців і дівчат з диригенткою Джойс Хруник-Рудяк, яка приграваля їм на акордіоні, забавили присутніх двома піснями "Гей забава" і "Вулиця". До свого двохголосного співу додали різні рухи, що справді розвеселили всіх своїм гумором.

Кожному учасникові-виконавцеві концерту голова Люба Бойко-Белл вручила грамоту участи у фестивалі.

До успіху причинилася т.з. "закулісна бригада" членів товариства: Ірини Шмігельської, Ксені Федини, Галі Котович, Ірини Тарнавської, Галини Лазурко які справно виконували свої функції, у висліді чого концерт пройшов гладенько без непотрібних перерв.

Голова товариства подякувала всім виконавцям за гарну гру, всім присутнім на залі за увагу і підримку праці товариства і запросила всіх взяти участь в майбутньому концерті юних талантів.

Концерт хору «Дніпро» в Едмонтоні

Олеся Талпаш

З нагоди столітніх святкувань провінції Альберти, Едмонтонський хор «Дніпро» виступив концертом темою якого був «Чотири пори року». Цей концерт був присвячений українським піонерам, люди котрі могутньо спричинилися до будування, як також і до загального розвитку нашої провінції. Під батутою диригента і мистецьким керівником, Марії Дитиняк, та помічника-диригента, Мирослави Загарії, цей виступ відбувся в McDougall United Church 30-го жовтня, 2005. Головним акомпаніатором хору була Вікторія Ковальчук, а гості на цьому концерту були акомпаніатор Галина Лазурко і танцювальний ансамбль «Тризуб» – під керівництвом Василя Канівця – з Калгарі. Пісні були переплетені народними поезіями і віншуванням які виголосили рецитатори Андрій Гладишевський, Іван Зінчук, Уляна Канівець, Богдан Криницький, Ксеня Мариняк, Стефан Мельниченко, Роман Петрів, Андрій Шимановка та Орест Юсипчук.

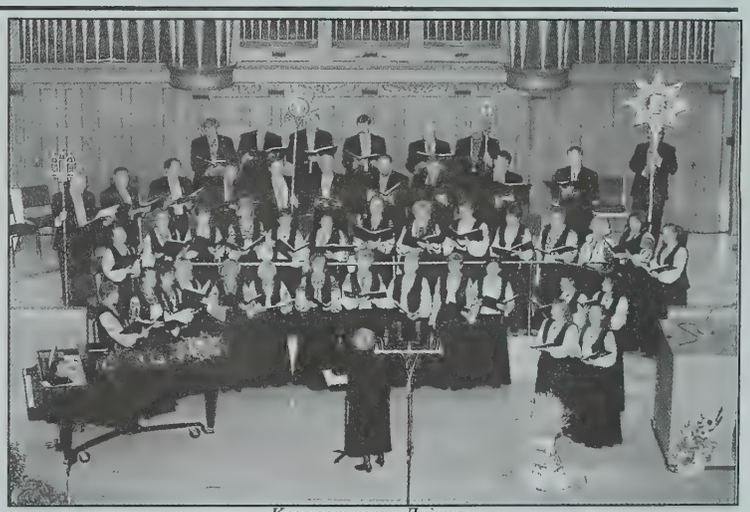
Завданням піонерів було корчувати, відкривати та розорювати канадські землі – себто, словами поета Я. Славутича, «завоювати прерії». Вони жили дійсно тяжким життям. Не зважаючи на те, ми сьогодні часом романтизуємо піонерське життя та всі його труднощі; ми говоримо про «синів землі», їх повний любови звязок зі землею, та надзвичайну чуйність до природи. Все ж таки, ці люди успішно вижили та поставили для нас усіх сильний фундамент. Виринає таке питання: в чому полягає їх успіх? Можна сказати що в їхньому переживанню немалу ролю грали їхні загально-побутові традиції – себто, система традицій котру вони привезли з собою до Канади, система котра служила їм впродовж століття як соціальне, духовне, та культурне підкріплення. А регулятором цієї системи був народний український календар.

Програма концерту мінялася стародавно-народним календарним циклом, через чотири пори року. В гармонії з природою, цей календар міряв не тільки перебіг часу, але і керував ритмом людського життя – ритми котрі охоплювали народні традиції та обряди повязані родинним, суспільним, та робочим життям, і котрі завжди відбувалися під супроводом особливих чарівних або релігійних дій, танків, драм, закликань, і пісень. З приходом християнства, система народніх обрядів не зникла; включаючи цикль церковних та релігійних свят, вона перетворилася і до сьогодні існує в обрядах та словах коляд та щедрівок; купальських пісень; веснянок, гагілок та хороводах; як також в народніх приказках, байках, забобонах, тощо.

Концерт почався молитвою Прийдіте, поклонімось (М. Березовський 1745-1777). Можна було відчути що цей прекрасний твір не тільки викликав у присутніх велике задоволення, але і надав тон сподівання гарного концерту. Голова хору «Дніпро», Люба Федущак, привітала публіку теплими словами, і сказала кілька слів про українських піонерів як також і про піонерських зусиль слідуючих імміграцій.

Згідно з порядком народного календаря, концертова програма почалася з ВЕСНОЮ – в уяві прекрасної дівчини яка приносить дари світла й теплоти. З поворотом перших пташок з вирію, жінки, дівчата та діти вибігали на найближчу гірку щоб вітати і закликати Весну; вони співали веснянки, гагілки, і виводили хороводи щоб випрохати всі ласки цієї життєдавчої пори року. На концерті, весь хор заспівав закликання – давною монофонічною мелодією – як також дві веснянки та одну гагілку: А вже весна, а вже красна (М Лисенко 1842-1912), Веснянка (Б Фільц 1932) з соліскою Іриною Федеркевич, і Подоляночка (А Кушніренко 1933-). Цю останню точку диригувала Мирослава Загарія, а тріо танцюристок з ансамблю «Тризуб» виконали хоровід.

Народний цикль ЛІТНИХ свят починається в місяці червні старовинним святом, «зеленими святами» або Святою Трійцею. Деякі основні точки літних свят були культ сонця, культ покійників, домашня та хліборобська робота, і, звичайно, Купало – «найвище, найвибуяліше свято, яким закінчується літний соняшний цикль річних календарних дохристиянських свят » пише проф. Стефан Килимник. Це свято молоді, залицяння та кохання. Вибір концертових пісень літнього циклю зосереджується на ці ж самі веселі та грайливо-любовні теми, описуючи чари Купальської ночі – час літнього сонцестояння – коли відьми літають; дерева говорять; папороть дає Квітку Щастя; молодь співає, танцює, і скаче через вогонь; дівчата плетуть вінки, пускають їх на воду і гадають свою долю. Отже, при цім, хор заспівав Не стій вербо (М Леонтович 1877-1921) і Через річеньку, через болото (Є Козак 1907-1988); Ой на морі хвиля грала (О Білаш 1931), тріо «Перлини» (Мирослава Загарія, Леся Чумер, Олеся Талпаш) з акомпаніатором, Галиною Лазурко; Маринонька (обр Б Фільц 1932-), виконали жіночий хор «Дніпра», солістка



Концерт хору «Дніпра».

Сузанна Романюк, і танцювальний ансамбль «Тризуб»; Пісня під сопілку (І Шамо 1925-1982), солістка Оля Федеркевич, диригент Мирослава Загарія; Ой вінку, мій вінку (Л Ревуцький 1899-1977). Хор виконав ще дві пісні не з цього купальського-любовного репертуару, пісні які описують любов до родини і до друзів: Діброво зелена (Г Майборода 1913-1994), соліст Іван Зінчук, і Гей браття опришки (А Кос-Анатольський 1909-1983), соліст Еміліян Ґрох.

Жнива, і з ними ОСІННІЙ цикль, починаються після купальських свят. Тому що хліб завжди вважався «святим», зажини, самі жнива, та обжинки відбувалися з великою обрядовою святістю, з молитвами та відповідними піснями. Сніп в руках, молоді жінки-хористки (Дарця Васараб-Ролланд, Роза Євчук, Уляна Канівець, Ксеня Мариняк, Наталя Онищук) ввійшли на сцену співаючи стародавний мотив Котився вінок з лану та й під господаря браму. Закінчивши свою жнивну роботу, народ звертає увагу на справи сватання та готування до весілля. Це дається відчути в піснях На вулиці скрипка грає (О Кошиць 1875-1944); Якби мені черевики (А Штогаренко 1902-1992) виконав секстет «Дніпрова Хвиля» (Оля Федеркевич, Ірина Федеркевич, Сузанна Романюк, Наталя Онищук, Уляна Канівець, Дарця Васараб-Ролланд) з акомпаніатором Галиною Лазурко; Сидить пташок на черешні (Г Майборода 1913-1992), солісти Уляна Канівець і Андрій Гладишевський; і Ой у полі верба (Ю Мейтус 1903-1997), дует тенорів –Любомир Пастушенко та Іван Зінчук. Пісню Ой у полі, полі світлиця стояла (П Козицький 1893-1960) виконали хор і солістка Леся Чумер. В цій пісні описується трагічну любов Марусі, яка лежить у світлиці і не відповідає на питання козака:«чи підеш за мене?» На пошану перших націй Канади, хор під диригентурою Мирослави Загарії і з соліскою Іриною Федеркевич заспівав Land of the Silver Birch – традиційну канадську пісню в обробці Катерини Чомик, на замовлення хору з нагоди століття Альберти.

Надходить ЗИМА, календарний цикль який пишається багатством свят! Переважають тут коляди, новорічні-маланчині пісні, та щедрівки, пісні що мабуть і сьогодні вважаються чародійними. Цей жанр пісень описує щоденне хліборобське життя, і випрошує плодовиті жнива, здоровя, та загальний добробут. Щоб створити магічну і, в той сам час, святкову атмосферу цих свят, деякі хористи віншували, а хор з ентузіазмом заспівав три улюблені щедрівки і одну нову, сучасну: Ой там за горою (М Леонтович 1877-1921), соліст Іван Зінчук, диригувала Мирослава Загарія; Павочка ходить (А Авдієвський 1933-), солісти Уляна Канівець і Наталя Онищук; В полі, полі плужок оре (К Стеценко 1882-1922), солісти Сузанна Романюк і Любомир Пастушенко; і на закінчення, написана модерною музичною мовою, Щедрівку О. Яківчука (1952-).

І так, в цьому добродушному настрою наших віншувань та щедрівок, хор «Дніпро» висловлює Вам, нашій дорогій публіці, нашим дорогим слухачам, щиру подяку за вашу довголітну підтримку.

Переможці кримських шкіл, 10–го листопада, 2005, Ялта.

Оперета «Вінер Блут» – дебют української співачки

Оксана Бризгун–Соколик

Різдв'яно–новорічний сезон у Торонті був заповнений різними радісними імпрезами, щоб попращати Старий Рік і зустріти Новий у доброму настрої.

Одною з них була постановка оперети «Вінер Блут» Йогана Штрауса II–го. Вистави від 28–го грудня до 8–го січня були цілком випродані, заля Джейн Малет театру завжди заповнена, повна сміху та відпружуючого настрою.

Торонтонський театер оперети ТОТ – Toronto Operetta Theater - заснувався в 1985 році, спочатку ставив одну оперету в сезоні, тепер переважно по три. Йоган Штраус, Франц Легар, Імре Калман, Жак Оффенбах, Гілберт і Саліван – та твори багатьох інших композиторів були професіно подані торонтонській публіці, що було щось нового, слухачами з ентузіязмом сприйняте та оцінене.

Мандат ТОТ було ставити клясичні оперетти, легкі опери і под., анґажуючи молодих канадських професійних артистів – співаків.

«Вінер Блут» була ще цікава тим, що крім улюблених штравсівських мелодій, заплутаного романтично–любовного комічного змісту, нам дала нагоду почути в одній з головних роль, ґрафині Ґабріелли Зелдау, дебют в опереті молодої українки – Катерини Чубар. К. Чубар має приємний голос, у своїй ролі мала гарні театральні манери.

Вдосконалена дикція ще більше підкреслює її позитивні якості. У життєписі К. Чубар подано крім інших виступів, що в 70–ту річницю голодомору в Україні вона співала в прем'єрі твору Світлани Кузьменко «Голос надії» для сопрана та смичкової оркестри під дириґентурою Ґері Кулеші. Наша громада останньо мала нагоду її почути на концерті з хором «Веснівка», з нагоди 40–ліття хору.

Оперета пройшла з великим успіхом. Артисти з ентузіязмом переконливо виконували свої ролі. Приємні голоси, гарні костюми та декорації залишили наскрізь позитивне враження постановки. А члени нашої громади раділи успішним дебютом молодої української співачки.

І шляхи стають коротшими!

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За те, що становище української мови в Україні є для Вас не приводом для обговорення, а ділом честі та реальних дій.

На жаль, про критичну мовну ситуацію в Україні все частіше можна прочитати в пресі. Питання введення російської мови як другої державної обговорюється досить активно і має багато своїх прихильників. Не один із нас, відвідуючи Україну, повертається із важким серцем – значна частина молоді на вулицях українських міст розмовляє російською.

Як важко нагнути старе дерево, так само важко змінити уже дорослих сформованих людей. Саме тому 7 років назад Освітня Фундація Петра Яцика вибрала єдино правильний шлях – іти до школярів та студентів та впливати на їхні молоді уми. Бо саме вони будуть завтра керувати Україною, виходячи із свого власного досвіду і переконання.

Ідея Мовного Конкурсу це заохотити до вивчення української мови і підняти її престиж в Україні. Переможці отримують грошові нагороди і визнання.

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Хочу наголосити, дорогі друзі, що з кожним роком і кожним черговим конкурсом росте кількість дітей, які приймають у ньому участь.

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Якщо Ви зацікавлені отримати більше інформації про Конкурс Української Мови ім. Петра Яцика, прошу звертатися за адресою: 5080 Timberlea Blvd., Suite 202, Mississauga ON L4W 4M2, tel: 905-238-0467; fax: 905-625-8445, e-mail: pjef@bellnet.ca

Оксана Коваленко

Сердечна подяка усім нашим жертводавцям, які протягом 2005 року своїми щедрими пожертвами допомагали провадити Конкурс Української Мови в Україні.

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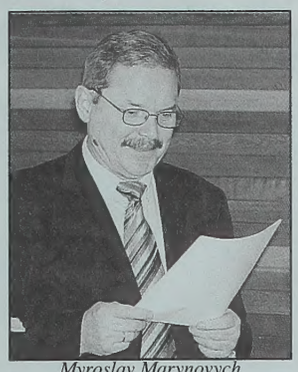
Communist criminals should be brought to justice, former dissident says

(UkrNews)—People who perpetrated crimes against humanity during the Soviet era in Ukraine should be brought to justice, said a dissident who survived seven years in a labour camp and three years of exile between 1977 and 1987, during a public lecture in Edmonton, Feb. 19,

Myroslav Marynovych, a former member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group said there was a reluctance to do so soon after Ukraine gained independence in 1991 because so many of the people were somehow involved in maintaining the Soviet system.



Myroslav Marynovych

This could vary in degree from those who actively participated within the KGB and other state instruments of oppression, to teachers who instilled the party line in their young students.

At that time the Americans too warned Ukrainians against staring a "Nuremberg 2" process because it could lead to many problems.

However, looking back in retrospect, that was a mistake, said Marynovych at the lecture, which was co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton and the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex.

This was wrong because it led to a situation where there was no accountability for previous crimes and became an obstacle to justice in Ukraine as a whole, he added.

Marynovych, who is in Canada as a visiting scholar under the Kolasky Fellowship program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, said that, after "the second wave of crimes" during the Kuchma administration, a new attitude has surfaced which calls for at least some top leaders to be brought to justice.

Marynovych, who was born in 1949 in Komarovychi, Lviv Oblast, said his dissident attitude came from his upbringing as a grandson of a Ukrainian Catholic priest and a resident of the "nationalistic" region of Halychyna.

During his university days in Kyiv he was harassed by the KGB for "slandering" the Soviet system and refusing to serve as an informer.

He joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, which brought attention to the USSR's non-adherence to the human rights clauses of the Helsinki Agreement on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in 1976, knowing full well that this would probably lead to arrest.

This decision proved to be a crucial one in his life and "I thank God for this decision", he said.

He was first dismissed from his job for his activities, given an official warning, then arrested in April 1977.Then he was interrogated by the KGB prior to his trial, though this process was suspended during the meeting of the Organization on security and Cooperation in Europe in Belgrade.

This shows the USSR was conscious of foreign opinion on the human rights question, but since few Western countries other then the United States exerted pressure on the Soviet Union at that conference, the state resumed its persecution of dissidents.

Marynovych stressed the importance of using political pressure from abroad to influence totalitarian states — it could have prevented his conviction.

After his conviction as a "most dangerous state criminal" he was transferred to a camp in the Perm region of Russia.

He said the Helsinki prisoners were highly respected by other prisoners in the camps for their courage in speaking out about the abuses of the Soviet system, but were subjected to special punishments by the guards because of their "negative influences" on other prisoners.

The most prevalent forms of punishment were the use of cold and hunger.

Several members of the Helsinki group died in the labour camps, including Oleksa Tykhy, Valeriy Marchenko and Vasyl Stus.

However, all the members of the group felt they felt they were fulfilling a purpose.

"Every day of your life there had meaning. Because you had a feeling that you were standing up for something," he explained.

Marynovcyh was released from the camp in 1984 and exiled to a small village in Kazakhstan.

He was allowed to return to Ukraine in 1987 during the Gorbachev "perestroika" period.

Folklore of the Orange Revolution

(UFC)—Jan. 17 Oleksandra Britsyna, Senior Researcher at the Rylsky Institute of Art, Folklore, and Ethnology of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kyiv, spoke on the folklore of the Orange Revolution at the University of Alberta. Dr. Britsyna and her colleague Inna Holovakha conducted fieldwork among the residents of the tent city on the Maidan, photographing graffiti, collecting jokes, and recording text messages where people transmitted folklore by cell phone.

According to Britsyna, folklore played a most important role in the Orange Revolution and it took many forms. People used traditional folk sayings and manipulated them to communicate their sentiments. Thus, the expression Moia khata z kraiu (my house is at the edge of the village), an expression used to excuse non-involvement, was changed to the slogan, often written on banners, Moia khata na Maidani (my house is on the Maidan) to voice deep commitment to the Orange Revolution. Similarly, head gear typically worn at weddings and stars traditionally carried at Christmas were modified and used to convey the joyous, virtually carnivalesque, atmosphere of the tent city on the Maidan.

As folk expressions were modified to suit the goals of the Orange Revolution, so were traditional jokes. The good news/bad news jokes were transformed to comment on vote count rigging by Yanuknovych and his supporters, for example. Graffiti played an extremely important role. Usually relegated to alleyways and other places where it would be visible only to the few, graffiti showed up everywhere: on subway entrances, fences, and even people's clothing. Words and drawings played on the egg incident where Yanukovych was supposedly injured by an egg and on the orange as revolutionary symbol. Some graffiti were obscene, but tolerated in the context of the carnival atmosphere. Interestingly, folklore about Yushchenko generated today, one year after the Revolution, draws more on television commercials than on folk sayings. Perhaps this is an indication that Yushchenko has lost some of his status as folk hero.

In addition to giving a lecture on the folklore of the Orange Revolution, Dr. Britsyna visited folklore classes and spoke about her work in the village of Ploske where she studied the preservation and transmission of folktale and other prose texts. Dr. Britsyna came to the U of A to serve as an outside examiner on a doctoral defense. After the defense, she was able to share her expertise through the lectures described above. She also explored Canadian repositories of Ukrainian folklore, specifically the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archive at the U of A and the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village east of Edmonton.

Ukraine criticized for deporting Uzbeks

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine on Feb, 17 came under sharp criticism from human rights groups for deporting 10 Uzbeks reportedly wanted by their government for their involvement in unrest in the city of Andijon in May 2005.

Anti-government protests in Andijon were brutally put down by the Uzbek government, with the loss of hundreds of lives.

The New York-based group Human Rights Watch says Ukraine's decision to deport the 10 Uzbeks violates international law.

The Uzbeks were deported on Feb. 14 after they were arrested in Crimea as illegal immigrants. Most of them had applied for, but were not granted, political refugee status.

Holly Cartner, Europe and Central Asia director at Human Rights Watch, said the men were sent back to "almost certain torture and abuse."

On Feb. 16, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) also condemned the deportations.

Feb. 21Ukraine today defended itself against criticism over its deportation.

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Vasyl Filipchuk said the 10 were deported for breaking Ukrainian migration laws and laws governing the status of foreigners.

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Speaker:
David Marples

Professor, Department of History, University of Alberta;
Director, Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine (CIUS)

Dr. Marples is a leading authority on the Chornobyl (Chernobyl) nuclear disaster of 1986. He is the author of many articles on the subject as well as two books: *The Social Impact of the Chernobyl Disaster* (1988) and *Chernobyl & Nuclear Power in the USSR* (1987). Dr. Marples is also the author of seven other books dealing with Russian, Soviet, Ukrainian and Belarusan history.

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Ukraine wins 2 bronze by Feb. 22

(UkrNews/Torino 2006 Website) —Ukraine had won two bronze medals at the XX Winter Olympic Games, in Torino, Italy, as this issue of Ukrainian News went to press, Feb. 22

The games began Feb. 10 and last until Feb. 26.

The medals were won by Lilia Efremova in the 7.5 Km Women's Sprint Biathlon and the husband and wife team of Elena Grushina and Ruslan Goncharov in Ice Dance.

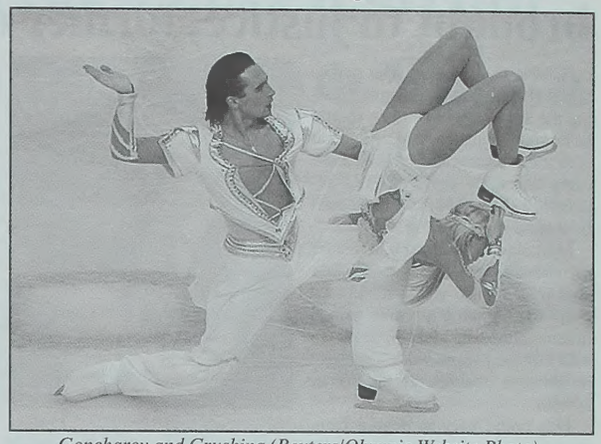
Efremova, who had gained attention earlier this year with a third place in Osrblie, was a surprise winner of the bronze medal in the 7.5 Km women's Sprint Biathlon competition, Feb. 16.

Florence Beverel-Robert of France won the gold medal in the event — her first ever in a long career — with a perfect performance.

Behind the 31-year-old Frenchwoman, only 2" away, was Swede Anna Carin Olofsson, the only favourite to maintain the promises of the standings, missing the most sought after medal due to a mistake in the very last shot.

Feb. 20 in the final stretch of the Ice Dance competition, the Free Dance segment, Grushina and Goncharov skated delightfully with an Arab inspired programme earning the bronze with a good 99.17 points, bringing them to a total of 195.85.

The gold went to the Russians Tatiana Navka and Roman Kostomarov. Second place was American, with the success of the young ones, Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto.



Goncharov and Grushina (Reuters/Olympic Website Photo).

Sports

Grushina and Goncharov started in fifth place on the first event of the competition, Compulsory Dance, held Feb. 17

But uncharacteristic mistakes by many of the leading contenders during the Original Dance competition, Feb. 19 allowed them to climb two places to third with 96.68 points.

Canadian Marie-France Dubreuil won the greatest gasp from the crowd when she crashed to the ice and whirled around on her side before limping off.

Dubreuil was lying across partner Patrice Lauzon by holding her hands behind her back and around Lauzon's arm. But she lost her grip as the couple spun around and landed hard on her hip.

The simplest fall came when Lithuanian Margarita Drobiazko slipped during a straightforward step sequence and dragged her partner and husband Povilas Vanagas down with her.

"You never know why it happens, it just happens," a resigned Drobiazko said.

Later in the evening, Federica Faiella and Massimo Scali of Italy simply seemed to trip over each other and landed in an ungainly heap in the middle of the rink.

Left to Right: 7.5 Km Women's Sprint Biathlon Silver Medal winner Anna Carin Olofsson of Sweden, Gold Medal winner Florence Baverel-Robert of France and Bronze Medal winner Lilia Efremova of Ukraine (Getty Images)

Horror crash for Ukraine luge team

Ukraine doubles luge slider Roman Yazvinskyy was injured in a horrific crash as the notorious Cesana Pariol Olympic Winter Games track claimed another victim, reported AFP Feb. 15.

Yazvinskyy was apparently conscious but took a heavy blow to the head after his sled plunged into the roof of the final curve at high speed, tipped sideways and ploughed into another wall, snapping a runner into pieces.

"He is conscious but he hit his head so you have to be careful about his condition," said a policeman at the scene, adding that Yazvinskyy would be taken for immediate treatment at an on-site medical centre.

His partner Oleg Zheberetskyy limped away in obvious pain.

It was just the latest in a series of chilling crashes on the course where America's Mark Grimmette and Brian Martin also saw their Olympic dream end in tatters.

The US pair, gunning to complete their Olympic medals collection with a gold, strayed too high up a left-hand wall on their opening run and were dumped on to the track at high speed in another spectacular wipeout.

However the US stars, who won bronze in Nagano 1998 and silver in Salt Lake City, did not appear to be badly injured and walked away from the crash.

Russia's Dmitriy Khamkin and Vladimir Boitsov also fell victim to the daunting course.

Andreas and Wolfgang Linger were the halfway leaders, blasting to a record speed of 126.7km/h for a time of 47.028 sec, eight-hundredths ahead of another set of Austria brothers, Tobias and Markus Schiegl.

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Canadians need better preparation in business dealings with Ukraine

Business

Dr. Natalia Burianyk

(UkrNews)—Lack of preparation and culture shock are some of the reason Canadians aren't being successful in their business dealings in Ukraine, said the guest speaker at the Canada-Ukraine Development Association (CUDA)'s dinner meeting Feb. 15.

However, added Dr. Natalia Burianyk, head of Slavic Gateway Consulting Ltd. in Calgary, these are problems that face Canadian businessmen world-wide.

In her presentation, Dr. Burianyk examined Canadian and Ukrainian cultural paradigms in communication patterns and business cultures, human resources and language issues, and provided examples of solutions to pitfalls experienced by Canadian companies.

Canadians are far behind Europeans in establishing business ventures in Ukraine, she said.

One of the keys is understanding different cultural traits and this means training in cross-cultural, values. Dr. Burianyk emphasized the importance of language training, explaining that interpreters cannot get the nuances of language across. For that one needs to know it oneself when doing business.

When asked which language businessmen should learn when dealing with Ukrainians, she replied Ukrainian (as opposed to Russian).

Since independence a lot of the bottled up feelings Ukrainians had have come to the front, and speaking in Ukrainian shows a respect for the way in which the country has changed.

Dr. Burianyk also touched upon the differences in attitudes between Europeans and North Americans.

Among them, North Americans tend to be more casual, whereas Europeans are more formal, money is what gives people status in North America, whereas it is education and upbringing in Europe and North Americans tend to do one thing at a times, while Europeans move on different projects at the same time.

CUDA is an Edmonton-based organization designed to promote economic relations between Canada and Ukraine.

Ukrainian-Turkmen gas squabble intensifies

By Roman Kupchinsky

(RFE/RL)—The head of Ukraine's state oil and gas company, Oleksiy Ivchenko, has said Ukraine is prepared to turn to the Stockholm Arbitrage Chamber of Commerce in its dispute with Turkmenistan over gas deliveries.

Speaking on Feb. 22, Naftohaz Ukrayiny chief Ivchenko also suggested that Turkmenistan's refusal to ship gas that was prepaid by Ukraine in January was linked to Turkmen President Saparmurat Niyazov's threat to raise the price of gas from US$50 per 1,000 cubic meters for the first six months of 2006 and $60 in the second half, to $100.

The dispute has been rumbling for a while. A Ukrainian government energy delegation, which visited Ashgabat on Feb. 17-18, received a hostile welcome from Niyazov. By contrast, Gazprom CEO Aleksei Miller visited Turkmenistan with a delegation on Feb. 17 and was welcomed with open arms.

The latest spat intensified when the Turkmen Foreign Ministry on Feb. 18 issued a harsh account of the disagreements between the two countries over how much Ukraine owed Ashgabat for gas deliveries in 2005-06.

Turkmenistan claims that Ukraine owes $158.9 million, of which $143.3 million is for gas delivered in 2005. According to the Foreign Ministry statement: "The Naftohaz Ukrayiny company expressed no desire to consider some specific problems brought up by the Turkmen side. Instead, attempts were made to cause confusion as to the payment of the debts for the fuel supplied.... Such an unconstructive approach...makes it difficult to hold talks on the prospects for cooperation between Turkmenistan and Ukraine in the gas sphere in 2007 and in the years to come."

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk angrily responded to these charges on Feb. 21 saying that Ukraine's debt was considerably smaller and that Turkmenistan was trying to break the contract it had signed with Ukraine for gas deliveries, because it was unable to fulfill its terms. Tarasyuk pointed out that Turkmenistan had signed contracts both with Gazprom and Ukraine to supply gas and the volumes contracted for were twice as great as Turkmenistan was able to export, Interfax reported.

Addressing this same issue, Vasyl Filipchuk, a Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman, told Interfax that Ukraine owed Turkmenistan $77 million dollars for past gas deliveries. He said the money had yet to be paid because of the constant delays by the Turkmen customs service in processing Ukrainian goods sent to Ashgabat as barter payment for gas. Filipchuk added that, despite an existing contract for 2006 gas deliveries, which Ukraine had prepaid to the sum of $88 million, "not one cubic meter of Turkmen gas contracted for sale to Ukraine has reached the Turkmen-Uzbek border."

Miller in the meantime was shown smiling on Turkmen television as he and Niyazov agreed on a greater role for Gazprom in developing Turkmenistan's gas infrastructure.

One of the reasons for the recent Ukrainian-Turkmen misunderstanding could be the undefined role that RosUkrEnergo plays in the transit of Turkmen gas to Ukraine. The contracts in force for 2005 and 2006 call on the Ukrainian side to sell the Turkmen gas it purchases to RosUkrEnergo, which then acts as the middleman for its delivery to Ukraine. However, according to a posting on Gazprom's website on Feb. 17, the Russian energy company claims that it acts as "the operator [middleman] for Turkmen gas transit via Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan" — a statement that seems to contradict the agreement that RosUkrEnergo is the operator for the same route. Who the real operator is remains unclear, although RosUkrEnergo is to be paid 15 billion cubic meters in gas for its services.

Another major problem facing Turkmen-Ukrainian gas relations involves the Central Asia Center pipeline, which has limited capacity and can only transport some 34 billion cubic meters of gas a year. The pipeline is owned by the countries through which it passes: Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia. In December 2005, Gazprom unexpectedly signed a contract with Turkmenistan to purchase 30 billion cubic meters. At that time, Ukraine already had a signed contract with Niyazov for 40 billion cubic meters. How the Turkmen side will export that amount of gas to Russia and Ukraine remains a mystery.

There are plans to expand the capacity of the pipeline. In 2004, RosUkrEnergo announced that it would spend $2 billion on the pipeline in order to enlarge its throughput capacity by 30 billion cubic meters. However, not one penny has been spent on this project. Some oil industry analysts have speculated that Gazprom — which controls part of the pipeline — is not interested in seeing the pipeline expanded at this time so that Turkmenistan would be forced to sell gas only to Russia and leave the Ukrainians at Gazprom's mercy.

Rada bars privatization of Nikopol steel factory

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine's parliament on Feb. 9 barred the privatization of the Nikopol steel factory.

A majority of lawmakers (287) voted to include the Nikopol factory on a list of enterprises that could not be privatized.

Last month, the Supreme Court ruled that the 2003 sale of Nikopol to Viktor Pinchuk, the son-in-law of former President Leonid Kuchma, was illegal and returned it to the state.

President Viktor Yushchenko called for the mill to be put up for sale in an open auction in the hope of receiving a high price. The government intended to sell a 50 percent stake plus one share in Nikopol.

The Economics Ministry accused lawmakers of violating the law with their vote. The ministry said it was up to the government, not the parliament, to decide whether to bar the sale of specific companies.

Yushchenko calls for energy efficiency

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko promised on Feb. 11 to set up a national energy-saving agency and outlined a program to improve energy efficiency in Ukraine.. The proposed program includes cutting energy consumption by half, diversifying energy supplies, and using local energy resources. The government will support entrepreneurs' intentions to invest in energy efficiency by cutting taxes and tariffs."

Kroes Energy appoints new director

(UkrNews)—Calgary-based Kroes Energy Inc. on Feb. 15 announced that C. James Cummings, LLB has agreed to join its Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Cummings is a partner in the law firm, International Energy Counsel of Calgary and has extensive oil and gas industry experience both in Canada and abroad. Prior to establishing his own law firm, Cummings was General Counsel for Asamera Inc. and Bow Valley Industries Inc. He currently serves as a Director for a number of public and private corporations.

Fred Callaway, President and CEO of Kroes, said: "We are delighted to have Mr. Cummings join the Kroes team. His combination of legal expertise and experience in the oil and gas industry will be a great benefit to Kroes, especially as it looks to expand its oil and gas portfolio."

Kroes Energy is a junior oil and gas producer and explorer participating in the Lelyaki Oilfield redevelopment project in Ukraine.

Briefly

U.S. grants Ukraine market-status

(RFE/RL)—The United States has granted Ukraine market-economy status. U.S. Deputy Commerce Secretary David Sampson made the announcement Feb. 17 during a visit to Kyiv. The new status will give Ukrainian products increased access to the U.S. market. The status is also critical to Ukraine's entrance to the World Trade Organization. The European Union granted Ukraine market economy status in December 2005.

Economy expands 0.9%

(Ukrainian Journal)—The Ukrainian economy expanded 0.9% on the year in January, suggesting the country has been successfully weathering a steep natural gas price hike, figures released Feb. 14 show. The government expected the economy to somewhat contract in January due to unusually high number of holidays this year and due to a 90% hike in gas prices that had been forced by Russia.

Foreign banks improve investment climate

(Ukrainian Journal)—The presence of foreign banking capital increases the investment attractiveness of Ukraine, according to the coordinator of projects by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Viktor Marchenko. The share of foreign capital in Ukraine's banking sector rose to 23% from 19.5% over the past several months due to several high-profile acquisitions, the National Bank of Ukraine said Feb. 21.

12 firms study offshore oil, gas

(Ukrainian Journal)—Foreign companies have shown interest in the development of oil and gas fields on the Black Sea shelf, Environment Minister Pavlo Ihnatenko said Feb. 8. According to him, 12 foreign companies have acquired the information necessary to participate in developing the Black Sea shelf.

Ukraine seeks companies for consortium

(Ukrainian Journal—Ukraine will seek Western energy companies to join a consortium that would build and own new natural gas pipelines aimed at increasing gas supplies to Europe, Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov said Feb. 11. The plan is apparently aimed at winning support for the new pipelines crossing Ukraine rather than building an expensive gas supply route via the Baltic Sea that had been pushed by Russia.

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Serbian police arrest 7 for trafficking women

(RFE/RL)—Serbian police have arrested seven people suspected of trafficking women from Ukraine and Moldova.

The seven suspects — three Serbs, three Ukrainians, and a woman from Moldova — are members of what the police called an "international organized criminal group."

Police said Feb. 10 the suspects published advertisements in Ukraine and Moldova about jobs in Western Europe to lure girls into leaving their countries.

The women were transferred through Romania, and their documents taken away.

The suspects were arrested in Belgrade.

The Balkans is one of Europe's major human trafficking routes.

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Pavlychenko, Lastiwka present a soulful tribute to Ukrainian song & dance

Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble.

(Pavlychenko/Lastiwka)—Members of Saskatoon's renowned Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble and Lastiwka Ukrainian Choir and Orchestra will present a soulful tribute to Ukrainian song & dance in "Echoes of the Soul" at Calgary's Jack Singer Concert Hall on Sunday, March 5th at 2pm.

The concert will feature best-loved Ukrainian songs interspersed with colourful, energetic dances from each group's respective repertoire. Songs range from the pensive *Dumy Moyi* by Shevchenko, to the light-hearted *Kurochka* and *Kolomeyky*. Dances will represent various regions of Ukraine, from the broad Steppes in the East to the Carpathian Mountains in the West. Also featured are creative interpretations of Ukrainian dance choreography in numbers such as *Kalyna, a la Kozak* and *Arkan*. Audiences will be delighted by the presentation of these songs and dances that flow seamlessly from one to another. The combined vocal-choreography numbers are brilliant amalgamations of song, dance and orchestra, as they display Ukrainian stage artistry in its highest form. Inspired by their emotional journey to Ukraine in 2003, "Echoes of the Soul" is a testament of what it means to be ambassadors of multiculturalism beyond Canada's borders.

Established in 1967 by Lusia Pavlychenko, and under the Artistic Direction of Serhij Koroliuk, the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble (PFE) has its own unique style and presence that continues to bring an exciting new edge to the Ukrainian dance genre. With Koroliuk's vast knowledge and thorough understanding of Ukrainian Folk and ethnography, PFE has an expansive and entertaining repertoire with choreography from many different regions and time periods.

For over 20 years, the Lastiwka Ukrainian Choir & Orchestra has been united by their love of choral music and Ukrainian traditions. Led by Artistic Director, Larry Klopoushak Lastiwka's stirring arrangements of sacred and folk music, both traditional and contemporary have made them premier entertainers receiving rave reviews, for their unique and vibrant "bilyi holos" folk style showing remarkable enthusiasm on stage, enhancing the melodies with their exuberant expressions."

Experience the dynamic music and dance of the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble and Lastiwka Ukrainian Choir and Orchestra in an unforgettable performance that will inspire Calgarians of all ages to put on their red boots and dance!

Tickets for "Echoes of the Soul", Sunday, March 5 at the Jack Singer Concert Hall in the EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts are $35 (adult) & $25 (student/senior) and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, by phone at (403) 299-8888 or on-line at www.ticketmaster.ca.

Ukraine mulls new space defense projects

(Ukrainian Journal)—President Viktor Yushchenko met Ukraine's top space scientists Feb. 15 to pledge state support for various civilian and defense projects, including plans to develop high precision weapons, a newspaper reported.

The meeting was held behind closed doors in Dnipropetrovsk, home to the country's space complex, and was attended by Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko and by the president's defense policy advisor Volodymyr Horbulin.

"In the modern world the space activity is a synonym of the word 'progress'," Yushchenko told the meeting according to the presidential press service. "It has direct relationship to the country's security policy and to its industrial sovereignty."

Ukraine, one of few countries that are capable of designing, manufacturing and launching space missiles, inherited its advanced space industry from the former Soviet Union.

Yushchenko, shortly after his inauguration in January 2005, singled out the aerospace industry as one of key sectors of the economy. The latest meeting shows Yushchenko has been sticking to his commitment to promote the industry.

The presidential press service provided little information on the meeting. But Kommersant daily reported the plans had been discussed to develop high precision missiles that would be deployed by the army and also available for exports to other countries.

"We believe there is a sufficient potential in Ukraine to develop new missiles for high precision weapons," Yuriy Moshnenko, the top scientist at Pivdenne, the Dnipropetrovsk-based missile design bureau, told Kommersant.

Yushchenko apparently assured the scientists the government would financially back the projects, but any concrete spending has not yet been approved, the newspaper reported.

Ukraine, which seeks to join NATO in 2008, has been steadily increasing its spending on defense projects over the past year in order to improve performance of its army.

The government plans to spend 8.9 bln hryvnias, or $1.78 bln, on defense in 2006, the biggest annual spending over the past decade, according to a budget approved late last year.

Among civilian space projects in which Ukraine will seek active involvement, Yushchenko mentioned Sea Launch, a Boeing-led consortium that launches satellites from a floating platform in the Pacific Ocean by using Ukrainian-made Zenith space vehicles.

Other projects include plans to launch satellites with the help of Dnipro, another Ukrainian space vehicle that had been created by converting intercontinental ballistic missiles SS-24.

Ukraine has been also actively working on Cyclone-4, a satellite launching platform in Brazil that will use Ukrainian-made Cyclone space vehicles. Yushchenko said "a good" progress has so far been made and promised the first launch in 2008.

Robust demand for space launching services over the past 12 months, mainly from Sea Launch, helped PivdenMash, the producer of Zenith and Cyclone missiles, to boost sales to 530.6 mln hryvnias in 2005, up 9% on the year.

"Any country in the third millennium will want to use space services," Yushchenko said. "This market is strategically important for Ukraine."

NATO supports Ukraine's membership bid, conditionally

(RFE/RL)—NATO says it supports Ukraine's aspirations to join the alliance, but eventual entry will depend on the country's commitment to democratic reforms.

NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer told reporters during a visit to the Polish capital, Warsaw, Feb. 16, that the alliance hopes Ukraine's parliamentary elections next month "will be free and fair."

Scheffer indicated that the March 26 vote will play a role in Ukraine's possible acceptance into the organization.

Ukraine's Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov was also in Warsaw Feb. 16 for talks with Polish leaders.